The Long Island FISHERMAN

50¢

The Largest Weekly Fishing Magazine in the United States!

SEPTEMBER 7th, 1978 ★ Volume 13, Number 36 ★ *13th Year of Publishing* ★ FIFTY-CENTS

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★

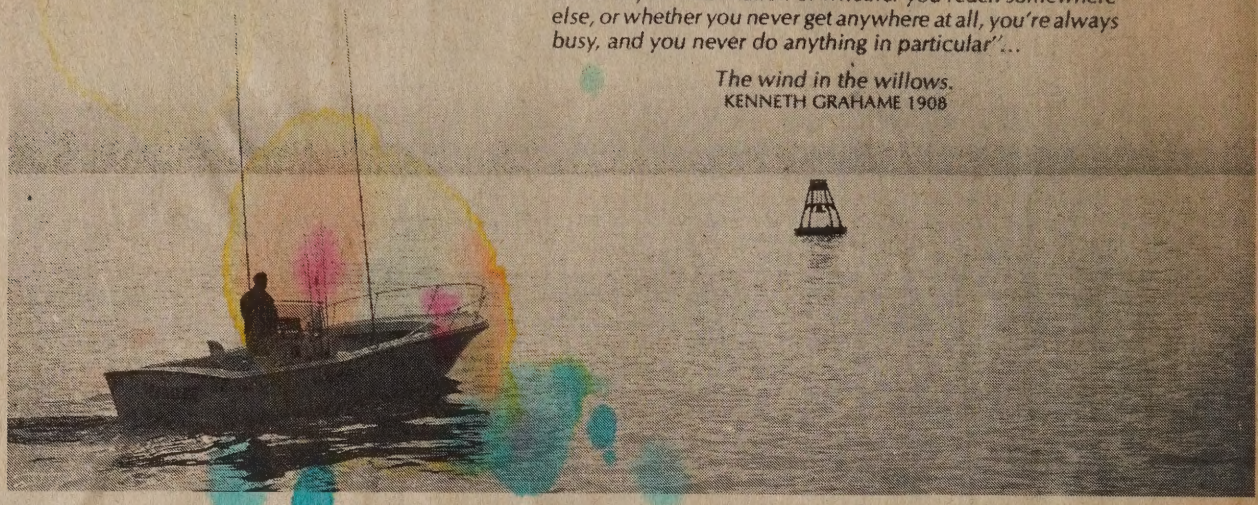
CRYING THE BLUES

★ FLUKE ON ARTIFICIALS ★

"Believe me, my young friends" said the Water Rat solemnly, "There is nothing...absolutely nothing...half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats,...Simply messing,...

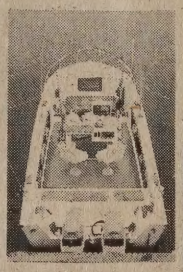
Nothing seems really to matter,...That's the charm of it... whether you get away, or whether you don't, whether you arrive at your destination or whether you reach somewhere else, or whether you never get anywhere at all, you're always busy, and you never do anything in particular"...

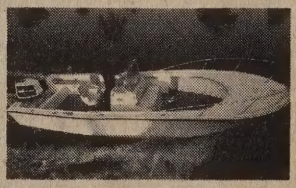
The wind in the willows.
KENNETH GRAHAME 1908



Mako...For "Messing About" and Catching Fish

Mako builds a line of center console fishing boats that will stand up under the toughest fishing pressure. Wherever game fish are caught, Makos will be found. From Key West Bonefish flats to Northern Muskellunge rivers. From Bimini Marlin grounds to Montauk Striper rips. All Makos are BIA approved. They are self-bailing and have foam flotation. Mako builds only center console fishing boats and we're the world's largest builder. There is no compromising, there is a single purpose—and that's to continue to build the finest fishing boat possible for the serious anglers who demand only the finest. Mako...For the true water rat who's very serious about his fishing. Mako...You'll find the line, where the fish are.





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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

VOL. 13, NO. 36 SEPTEMBER 7, 1978

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COMING NEXT WEEK:
Early Fall Flounder

About the Cover—

Now that the Labor Day weekend crowds are behind us, we can look forward to some great fall fishing, like catching gorilla blues like this one that jumped on a swimming plug.

Richard Reina — PUBLISHER
Scott Simons — MANAGING EDITOR
Dr. Wm. A. Muller — EDITOR
Al Ristori — CONSERVATION EDITOR
Ken Walsh — NATIONAL ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
Stu Miller — LOCAL ADVERTISING MANAGER
Pete Barrett — NEW JERSEY EDITOR
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Rich Reina Jr. — PRODUCTION MANAGER

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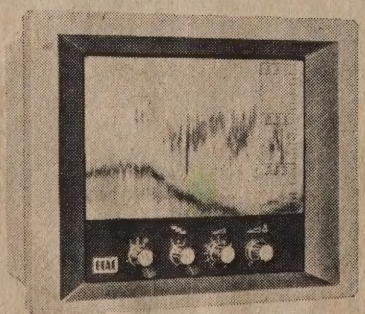

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BOATING

BROOKLYN POWER SQUADRON

Registration for a course in small boat handling will be held by the Brooklyn Power Squadron on Thursday September 7, at 7 PM at St. Francis College, 180 Remsen Street, just a half block from the Brooklyn Borough Hall.

Skippers and would-be skippers, both men and women, over the age of 16 are invited to attend the 12-week evening course. Ownership of a boat is not required. Classes will be conducted at St. Francis College on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., starting on September 14. Additional information can be obtained by calling 768-4714.

POWER SQUADRON TO CONDUCT THREE FREE BOATING COURSES

The Hempstead Bay Power Squadron, will conduct a free 10-week course in boating at the following High Schools, starting at 8 PM.

Hewlett High School—Sept. 12; North Valley Stream High School—Sept. 19, and West Hempstead High School—Sept. 26.

The course is open to men, women and youngsters. Youngsters must be at least 12 years of age, and boat ownership is not required for anyone.

BAY SHORE COURSE

The most popular United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, adult, twelve-lesson Boating Skills and Seamanship Course, will start Tuesday, September 12, 1978, 7:30 p.m. at Bay Shore Junior High School. This is the most extensive course given and covers all aspects of Safe Boating. Minimum age 17 yrs. For information or early registration, call 581-0194.

CLUB NEWS

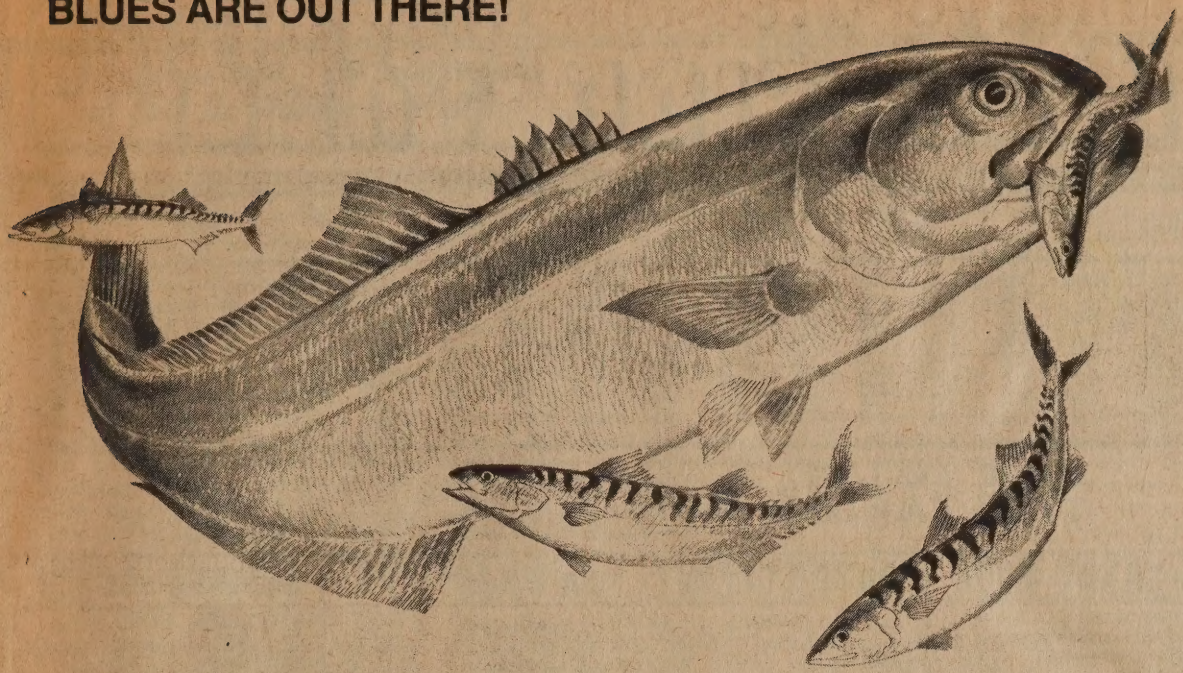
SEEKS MEMBERS

Quen Rods Fishing Club, located in the Marine Park section of Brooklyn is looking for new members. The club offers charter, open boat and a 3-day Quincy Bay, Mass. trip. For further information, call Bob Johnson, V.P., (212) 627-2635.

Pass It On...

Would LIF reader Amando Guerra, who ordered our publication, **Fishing for Fluke**, kindly contact our office at (516) 725-4200 as soon as possible.

BLUES ARE OUT THERE!



Make every cast count. Depend on DuPont Stren®.

When you have Du Pont *Stren* monofilament on your reel, you have everything a fishing line can give you...all in one line.

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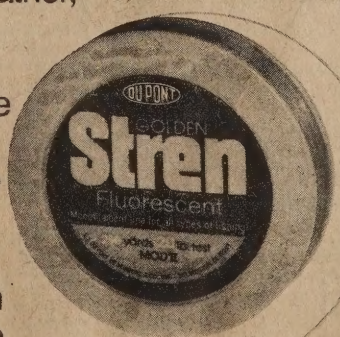

Try a spool of *Stren*. Clear/Blue, bright Golden or high contrast Orange. When the blues are out there, make every cast count.

IT'S THE ONLY LINE YOU NEED. DUPONT

HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR.	11:41	11:51	—	12:21	—	12:09	12:47	1:10	2:29	2:51	2:38	2:58	11:43	—	9/7
FRI.	—	12:30	12:39	1:11	12:24	1:00	1:37	2:01	3:17	3:41	3:24	3:48	12:05	12:34	9/8
SAT.	12:46	1:27	1:30	2:10	1:17	1:56	2:33	2:59	4:09	4:36	4:20	4:45	1:00	1:33	9/9
SUN.	1:47	2:29	2:33	3:13	2:21	2:57	3:38	4:03	5:08	5:37	5:21	5:48	2:03	2:38	9/10
MON.	2:56	3:37	3:44	4:23	3:33	4:08	4:46	5:11	6:14	6:46	6:27	6:55	3:08	3:42	9/11
TUE.	4:11	4:45	4:55	5:29	4:48	5:20	5:50	6:16	7:36	8:09	7:34	8:02	4:12	4:44	9/12
WED.	5:20	5:49	6:01	6:30	5:58	6:24	6:50	7:14	9:05	9:31	8:38	9:04	5:13	5:40	9/13
THUR.	6:20	6:46	6:59	7:26	6:57	7:19	7:47	8:10	10:11	10:33	9:37	10:02	6:08	6:35	9/14

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES:

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	—0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	—0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	—0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	—0 12
Seaside Park	—0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	—0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	—0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	—0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	—0 02
Rehoboth Beach	—0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	—0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	—0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	—0 38
Democrat Point	—0 38
Coast Guard Station	—0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	—0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	—0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	—0 08
Herod Point	—0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	—0 20
Truman Beach	—0 42
Falkner Island	—0 13
Sachem Head	—0 10
Branford Harbor	—0 07
New Haven Harbor	—0 08
Milford Harbor	—0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	—0 03
Saugatuck River	—0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	—0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	—0 14
Montauk Inlet	—0 25
Montauk Point	—1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	—0 33
Noank, Mystic River	—0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	—0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	—0 10
Execution Light	—0 06
Manhasset Bay	—0 01
Hempstead Harbor	—0 11
City Island	—0 03
Rye Beach	—0 28
Port Chester	—0 09
Mamaroneck	—0 08
New Rochelle	—0 24
Davids Island	—0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	—0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	—0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	—0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	—0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	—0 08
Point Judith Harbor	—0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	—0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

9/3	6:27	7:31
9/8	6:32	7:22
9/13	6:38	7:14
9/18	6:43	7:05
9/23	6:48	6:56
9/28	6:53	6:47

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
9/2	9/10	9/16	9/24

The Original Knight
SOLUNAR TABLES
When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM Minor	AM Major	PM Minor	PM Major
Thurs.	8:55	**3:10**	9:20	**3:35**
Fri.	9:50	**4:05**	10:15	**4:30**
Sat.	10:45	**5:00**	11:10	**5:30**
Sun.	11:45	**5:50**	11:55	**6:20**
Mon.	—	**6:45**	12:35	**7:15**
Tues.	12:50	**7:40**	1:30	**8:10**
Wed.	1:50	**8:35**	2:25	**9:05**
Thurs.	2:45	**9:25**	3:20	**9:55**

FISH TALK
with Dr. William A. Muller

MR. JAWS
Carcharodon carcharias
★ PART ONE ★

THE TRUTH ABOUT MR. JAWS. I was going over a few ideas for this column the other day when I happened to catch the cover page of the New York Daily News, which was resting on a table not too far away from me. The headline boasted that this was the first photo of the great white shark that was harpooned and then lost by Captain Sweetman of the Ebb Tide. Was this really a great white shark? I think that the topic has been played out rather well. The Fisherman editorials, combined with reader responses in "Chum Lines" indicates that fishermen still remained divided in their feelings about the reality of white sharks in Long Island waters.

CAN THIS BE HOLLYWOOD? There has been a tremendous increase in interest in shark fishing during the last decade. The growth in recreational shark fishing is a direct result of the development of small, rugged, seaworthy craft that are within reach of the middle class pocketbook. The allure of the big game hunt intrigues many people whether it is done on the plain of Africa, the Rocky Mountains, or the edges of the Gulf Stream. So, along comes **Jaws I**, and the movie moguls decide to release that first film in this area around the end of June. Why? A combination of reasons actually. First, school would be out and college and high school students would be eager to be entertained by a film that was both exciting and seasonal. Second, the movie makers consulted with local shark experts and they determined that white sharks are in Long Island waters each year during the end of June and early July. Third, the film would be easily available at that time. Advertising, sales, and bookings could be and were, completed. We were part of that first shark excitement. We spent a very seasick day with Captain Nappi who had spotted a huge white shark and thought it great timing for the promotion of his business if he could pull up to the dock with a big great white. We never saw a white shark—fortunately! I don't know what I was doing out there. I, a marine biologist especially, should know better! Great white sharks are unique animals and it isn't just their size that is impressive. Of all the sharks, only the great whites have the feeding habits and the temperament to really qualify as dangerous. Look, any creature is potentially dangerous. A big bluefish can take a hand off if the fisherman is careless. However, the danger of the big bluefish or the average shark is a calculated one. They are predictable animals. If a big blue comes over the rail, you can bet that it will flip-flop, snapping its jaws all the while and the fisherman should use caution and a pair of pliers to remove the hook.

WHAT THEN IS SO SPECIAL ABOUT A GREAT WHITE SHARK? I said that they were unique, and they are. To begin with, they are not an abundant species of shark, but they do swim in many oceans of the world. There is a temptation to say **all** the oceans of the world. However, it is doubtful that they will be encountered in polar seas. So we'll settle for all the temperate and tropical oceans of the world. Why are they not abundant? They have evolved and adapted to a specialized way of life—or niche. Whereas some animals are generalists and can easily fit into a variety of environmental and trophic dynamic patterns, the white shark is a specialist—restricted to a limited pattern of existence. White sharks migrate over many thousands of miles of ocean following their prey and this is precisely what brings them to Long Island waters. During the end of June, herds of small whales and porpoises move up the coast on their way to summer feeding grounds off northern New England. These mammals are calving; that is, they are close to giving birth. The young whales and porpoises are, of course, vulnerable to predator attack because they lack the speed, size, and endurance of their parents. In addition, some of the female mammals may experience difficulty during, at the time of, or after birth and thus they also become vulnerable to predator attack. Now, whales and porpoises are bright, strong, and speedy and under most circumstances they are able to repel shark attacks. Porpoises, for example, are known to charge into an attacking shark and strike them in the side with a powerful blow from their tapered snouts. These blows often produce deep tissue injury, which may bring on hemorrhaging and death.

BUT THE GREAT WHITE IS SPECIAL! Nature has blessed the great white with more speed, size, and savagery than any other large shark and then nature threw in an added measure of strength and endurance. The result is a machine that is primed for killing. Such are the requirements for a creature that must succeed by killing mammals. The tiger, lion, wolf, and other terrestrial hunters all possess these qualities and are efficient, ruthless hunters. Why are we surprised then when such a beast lives in the sea. We have alluded to this in the past, and it applies here again. The surface of the sea is a boundary and we have great difficulty seeing through it. Thus, the sea has always prompted a sense of mystery, excitement, and danger. On land, a man can see a tiger or lion at some distance. Actually, of course, this isn't true and a stalking predator would not tip its hand until the moment of the kill. However, because we can see a considerable distance across the predator's domain, we have the illusion that we can and will see the beast. In the sea, we have no such illusion. Yet we swim, boat, fish water ski, and enjoy the sea in many ways. We worry about things that go bump in the night. The small blowfish that nips our toes becomes a great savage beast. We jump, holler, and run out of the water, even though not a drop of blood has been shed.

WHAT ABOUT THE QUESTIONS RAISED THIS JUNE? The release of **Jaws II** and the Captain Sweetman incident created many sceptics. Had Sweetman been successful in bringing the shark back to the dock, the entire discussion would be without value, since the matter and the questions would have been decided. The shark escaped and that was the signal for every Doubting Thomas in the area to raise both eyebrows and questions. I heard someone say, "A white shark thirty feet long—don't be ridiculous! Sharks don't get that big!" True or false? Sorry, Thomas, but sharks do get that big. White sharks average twelve feet, but then striped bass average less than ten pounds. Does that mean that there are no stripers that weight fifty, sixty, or seventy pounds swimming out there? The biggest white shark ever recorded was thirty-six-and-a-half feet and weighed in excess of **seven tons!** Basking sharks regularly get to become twenty and thirty feet long, although they are considered harmless and the whale shark can grow to seventy feet. The whale shark is also harmless.

"WHITE SHARKS DON'T SWIM IN OUR WATERS?" True or false? Sorry, Thomas! White sharks have been spotted, harpooned, taken on hook and line, and netted in our waters many, many times!

"WHITE SHARKS ARE NO MORE DANGEROUS THAN ANY OTHER SHARK!" True or false? Sorry again, Thomas, but white sharks are the only truly dangerous shark as far as man is concerned. Any shark can represent a potential danger—remember that. If you were hooked and attempting to gain freedom, wouldn't you fight with everything you had to escape, and if that meant killing your captors wouldn't you do it? You bet you would! But a mako, blue shark, even a

(Continued on page 42.)

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THE CAPTAIN'S TABLE ...From the Godfather's Cookbook

by Andy Regina (with an able assist from Eileen)

Baked Stuffed STRIPED BASS

My wife was nervous and excited: my uncle was coming to dinner—the first time in recorded history that he ever paid any of his relatives a visit that we knew of. She couldn't decide on what to cook, and was afraid that she would not make a good first impression; but I calmed her fears by opening the refrigerator and showing her the eight pound striped bass that I had placed in there earlier in the morning, while it was just getting light out, and while she was still sleeping.

The bass itself was my seasonal high to date: I don't catch many big bass around Country Club or Pelham Bay—two places on the western Sound near where I live in The Bronx. I catch a lot of bass, but mostly schoolies, and really have a ball fishing with ultra-light spinning tackle and miniature lures. The night before had been one of my better nights, probably due to the full moon and that beautiful incoming tide, and my tiny jointed Rebel plugs actually drove the fish wild. Thirteen bass were recorded; we don't count short fish (N.Y. State law says sixteen inch minimum from fork of tail to tip of snout), although they are duly logged and released. The thirteen fish recorded were all over the minimum size, and all legal keepers—although they too were released, except for that big one. I guess it was a matter of pride, or ego, but I just had to bring that fish home to show off. Besides, we hadn't eaten bass in awhile, and my wife was a mean bass cook, with a stuffing out of this world that I was certain would please Uncle Vito.

And he was literally my godfather, having not only baptized me, but confirmed me as well, binding me doubly to him respectfully, which is a big thing in Italian families. The name of Goombah fit him well in the outside world also, for although we never really knew exactly what line he was in, he was always well dressed, drove a new car, and had lots of money. And he never talked about himself to anyone, giving rise to all sorts of conjecture when Marlon Brando popularized the role of Don Corleone, in the movie, "The Godfather."

Well, to shorten the story, the dinner was a huge success; Uncle Vito enjoyed the whole bit, drinking imported French Burgundy out of a water tumbler like lemonade, and falling asleep at the table to strains of Jimmy Roselli singing "Mala Femmina." He did grace us with some parting words before he left, though, telling my wife that the potatoes could have used "a little more salt," but he threw me a wink as he said it and was actually smiling when he left—leaving me to believe that he was pretty human after all.

If you'd like to try this godfather pleaser, here goes: catch a six to eight pound striped bass first. You can buy one if you must, but will miss out on half the pleasure if you do so. Scale and gut the fish, and rinse under cold running water. Leave the head and fins on; the end result will not only look prettier, but those bony fins will all pull out easily when cooked, leaving no short pieces to choke on. Put fish in ungreased baking pan, and make three or four slits on the side facing up. These are for the stuffing mix, which recipe will follow:

Mix one cup of bread crumbs, chopped garlic as desired, chopped parsley, one tablespoon grated Parmesan, one-half teaspoon oregano, one tablespoon olive oil, and two or three tablespoons of water, blending everything together to consistency resembling dressing. Fill slits and body cavity of fish with mixture, a la stuffing turkey. Squeeze the juice of one fresh lemon on fish, sprinkle with salt and pepper to taste, and an added sprinkle of oregano, for bouquet. Slice one large onion, and one or two medium sized fresh tomatoes, placing alternating slices on top of and around fish. Sprinkle one or two tablespoons of olive oil over fish, and pour one-half cup of water into pan. Place fish into pre-heated oven, at 450° until fish browns slightly; turn down oven to 350° and cook for about forty-five minutes, or until fish flakes easily to the fork.

A delicious side dish can be prepared at the same time, in the same pan, for potato lovers. Wash and slice three or four medium sized potatoes, and arrange slices around fish in pan, before you do anything else; then proceed with the preparations listed above. Baste potatoes as needed, replacing evaporated water when needed, but do not baste the fish. The potatoes will taste lemony-tangy good, and neither they nor the bass will smell or taste "fishy" at all.

When done, remove entire contents of pan to a platter, arranging cooked onion slices and tomato slices around perimeter of fish; garnish with fresh parsley sprig, and serve with hot Italian bread, sprinkled with water and wrapped in aluminum foil, and popped into the oven for five minutes while the fish is finishing. The potatoes can either go on that platter, too, or on a separate dish. It makes no difference, for they'll all be gone very quickly at any rate.

The perfect complement here would be a green salad of Italian inclinations, namely mixed escarole, chicory and romaine lettuce, chopped and topped with—what else—Italian dressing. Far tastier than prepared dressings is a simple one you can make yourself, comprised of red vinegar, olive oil, garlic salt, chopped oregano, and chopped parsley.

Any white wine goes well with fish, and a fine choice in keeping with this Italian-oriented dinner would be Bolla Zoave, but you can use any wine of your own choosing. We had imported French burgundy that day because it was a gift from Uncle Vito, and you do not insult Uncle Vito by not serving his wine for dinner. He brought a whole case—or rather his companion brought it, some bent-eared, flat-nosed giant that carried it to our door in one hand, and who actually took off his hat and bowed when Uncle Vito introduced my wife to him. Then, without a word from Uncle Vito, the giant left, reappearing three hours later to pick my uncle up with the car.

I wonder.....???

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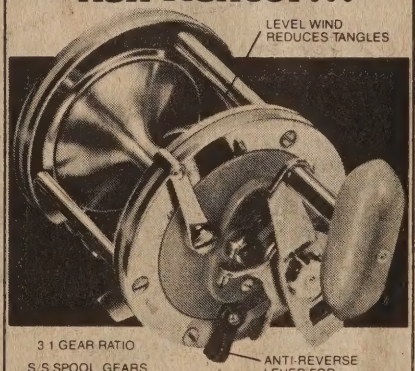

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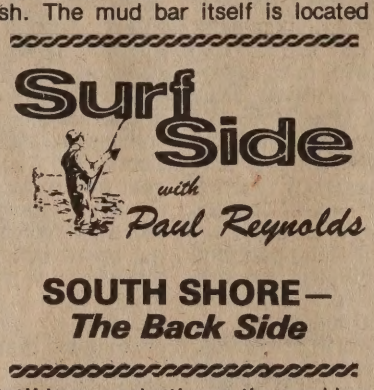
It is a well known fact that surfcasters along the south shore take a great majority of the large cow bass annually from back-bay waters: not from along the ocean front, nor from the tips of jetties. For many years, this was a well kept secret. And, for an equal length of time, it was an accepted fact—but the locations were unclear. This article will provide the reader with the location of one of the best of these backwater areas and an insight on how to fish it. Along the south shore, between the Fire Island Inlet and Jones Inlet, lies the "mud bar," the most productive backwater area in terms of both number and size of fish. The mud bar itself is located parallel to the shore line along the southeast side of the third Meadowbrook Bridge and becomes exposed to view only after the tide has been running out for about two hours. Not as widely known, even among those who frequent the area, is that the area extending one-quarter mile east from the mud bar up to and including a location known as the "little point" is as productive as the mud bar itself.



There are two key factors that underlie the productivity of this area. The obvious one is the fact that the mud bar is located almost adjacent to a bridge in an area which is subject to great tidal flow and which is also within eyesight of the Jones Inlet. However, the more important fact—and the one which is always neglected—is the fact that Haunts Creek located approximately one-quarter mile from the bridge on the northeast side, empties directly into this area. On the outgoing tide, the current from this creek shoots directly across to the little point on the south side. Here, the current bends and flows along the south shore line where it passes directly in front of the mud bar. As the bait flows out of the creek it constitutes a natural chum slick. This can be substantiated by the pattern in which fish—especially school fish—feed and hold in natural feeding lanes.

When fishing these areas, you must park in the Jones Beach Fishing Pier lot and walk west to these locations. Parking here after dark requires the use of the free Jones Beach, Captree and Robert Moses State Park identification card. From the parking lot it is a ten to fifteen minute walk to the little point and a twenty to twenty-five minute walk to the mud bar.

In describing the best times to fish this area, the reader must understand that there are really three distinct areas involved. These are: the little point; the area between the little point and the mud bar, and the mud bar itself. This encompasses an area a little greater than one-quarter mile in length. Because of the variance in tides between the Meadowbrook Bridge area and the Jones Inlet, it is best to arrive for a night's fishing just short of an hour-and-a-half later than listed time for high tide at the Jones Inlet. This will allow you to casually don your waders, secure your equipment, lock up and start walking towards the little point (which you have already carefully eyeballed during daylight hours). If things work out according to schedule, you should be able to find the little point and be ready for business at the high water slack period.

The "little point" and the area extending approximately one hundred yards west of it are most productive during the high-water slack period and for the first hour of the out-go. Start your fishing at the tip of the point and work very slowly to the west. You should plan on being one hundred yards west of the "little point" one hour into the out-go. From this point, you will also work very slowly west for the next hour.

However, in this area there is an unexposed bar paralleling the shore line that can be easily reached through careful wading. Fish are sometimes found on both sides of this bar, so start fishing on your way out. As soon as you feel that you have reached the beginning of the bar—STOP! The fish often hold in this area facing into the current, snug against the bar. Do not chance spooking these fish by going out too far or by wading carelessly.

If you fish this area slowly and properly, at the end of an hour the mud bar should be partially exposed immediately to your left. The mud bar is at least one hundred yards in length. Work your way out to the bar and fish slowly west towards the bridge. There is one helluva dropoff at the west tip of the bar. Be careful!

If nothing shows the first time down the bar, go back to the beginning of the mud bar and start again. Good fishing persists as long as there is sufficient current to work the large plugs that will be fished here.

The matter of plug selection for these areas is quite simple. At the "little point," Rebels and Red Fins are most often used. Floating models in all black, chrome, and black-and-silver work best. For the area between the "little point" and the mud bar there are two choices: Rebels and Red Fins are used when the fish are lying snug against the bar, and large plugs such as darters and bottle plugs in both white and yellow when the fish are not. In addition, eel skin plugs and rigged eels work very well at times. In fishing the mud bar area, the larger items just described are the proven fish takers.

The methods used in fishing each of these areas will be the same. Starting with short casts and gradually increasing distance, you will be casting straight out in front of you. You should then reel whatever you are using as slow as the current will allow as your line starts a sweep to the left. If nothing shows, your choice is to either switch whatever you are using or to begin working slowly westward towards the bridge.

The mud bar area will produce striped bass from May through November. Weakfish are fairly predictable from the third week in July through September (sometimes later). For an added treat, large blues will show sporadically from the first week in August through October. As you are probably well aware fishing will be best during the late night hours between 10 PM and 4 AM. Fishing dramatically improves during and immediately after a strong northwester, especially during the late season.

In closing, let me point out that if you should decide to keep the fish that you catch, walk from the mud bar up to the road which parallels the shore line and leave your fish in a location you will not forget. On your way home along the road you can pick them up. This will allow you to walk back unburdened and also to tell the so-called fishermen back at the piers that nothing was doing. A real fisherman never needs to ask!

FLUKE ON ARTIFICIALS

(Continued from page 15.)

pounders), sea bass, porgies, and last—but not least—the ubiquitous sea robin. All of these were taken while I was supposedly fluking. I've witnessed catches of striped bass and even **blackfish** caught on Salty Dogs! The feeling that your next cast may produce an eight pound weakfish instead of a fourteen inch fluke, lends an air of excitement to the proceedings that is not found in the more orthodox methods of fluking, where the usual incidental catches consist mainly of sea robins, sundials, and an occasional sea bass. Of course, your next cast may very well produce a sea robin or nothing at all—but that's the fishing game. When fishing with lures, the possibilities of interesting mixed bags are very good. This is another good reason to give fluking with lures a shot.

If you get tired of dragging sand eels along the bottom of great South Bay this summer, get your Hopkins out and give fluking with artificials a try. You will find that it not only works, but it's a lot of fun in the bargain! You will also be adding another trick to your repertoire of fishing techniques.

Remember, the more versatile you are in your fishing skills, the better chance you have of achieving success on your fishing jaunts and becoming a better fisherman all around.

CONTESTS & NEWS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

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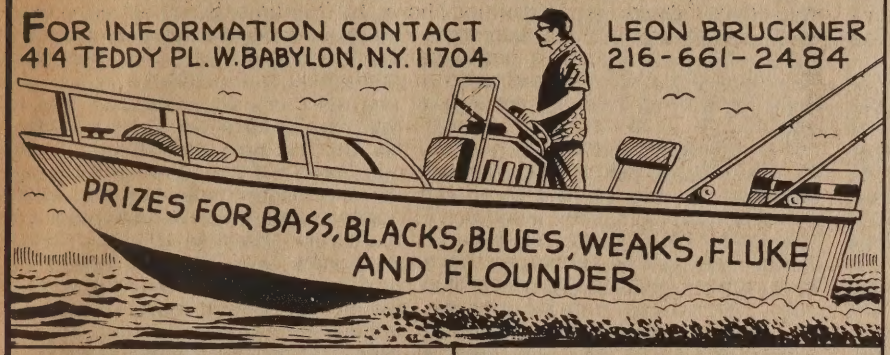

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OLD TIMERS' CORNER
"The way it was..." with Matt Ahern

FLUKE FISHING

Being a dedicated fisherman and an avid reader, I have among my fishing books, one small volume entitled: "Fishing Around New York." It was written, I'd guess, around 1917. The opening paragraph of the chapter on fluke begins like this: "No fish comes into the bays regularly in such numbers as does the fluke." When one considers the amount of flounder, porgy, weakfish, et cetera, that poured into the bays in those days, it is enough for today's fishermen to sit back and pause a bit. That adds up to a lot of fluke. While I remember seeing World War I soldiers leaving for overseas duty in 1917, I was much too young to be doing any fishing; so I can't give you firsthand information on just how authoritive that statement was at the time. But as the author of this little book certainly knew his fishing, I am more than willing to take his word for it. He was in a position to know, for when I first began fluke fishing in the late twenties, there were more summer flatties available than that well-known proverbial stick could cover. Because of this, I feel certain this unknown gentleman didn't exaggerate one bit. During those early days, I did very little fluke fishing in the bays. Except for a few trips to Shinnecock Canal in a Model T, all my fluke fishing was done aboard party boats, much of it spent drifting around Sandy Hook. During the early thirties, I was putting in time as mate aboard Canarsie's Rose R II, and most all our fluke fishing was done in this area. Outside of an occasional foray off Roamer Shoal and several early-September trips for doormats around several pound nets jutting out from Sea Bright, we spent just about every July and August day drifting the Sandy Hook beaches. The fishing often bordered on the unreal.

Those were truly wonderful days for young dedicated fishermen. I can still recall the overwhelming thrill of anticipation as I stood at the bow of that party boat, watching the white sand beaches of the Hook loom closer and closer with each throb of the diesel. It was like magic!

I would often look down upon that beautiful, clean green water as we approached, wondering how many fluke we were passing over, wishing for Divine Power to pierce its opaque quality and see the rilly bottom and behold its many wonders. To this day, I still am filled with that feeling of enchantment. I know in my heart I'll never be cured of this, nor would I want to. I guess I'm a fanatic, all right; one hopelessly in love with the fishing game.

Anyway ... back to fluke fishing and the way it was.

What would you consider a good catch of fluke today? A dozen? A half-dozen? Would you believe it if I told you that back in those days thirty to forty fluke per fisherman on a good fishing day raised no eyebrows? I hope you will, for that was the way it was.

For the well-experienced crackerjack fluke fisherman, one who understood exactly what he was doing and why he was doing it, it was not unusual for him to catch fifty or more. Hard to believe? Yes, of course; but it is true. I saw this happen more than once. I did it myself from time to time, and I write this with no thought of braggadocio. It was the way it was—such catches were fairly common in those days.

When compared to today's standards, rods and reels were heavy; our terminal gear basically the same with but minor changes due to modern-day technology. Most fishermen used large wooden sidewinding reels, six thread Irish linen line (eighteen pound test), eight ounce diamond sinkers, and a 4/0 Sproat hook, silk-wound on a three foot "gut" leader. I saw few Carlisle hooks in use.

Rods were heavy and stiff, and once the hook was planted, the fluke didn't have much of a chance. Not very sporting when compared to today's light, yet strong, tackle. But that's all we had and it furnished sport to the nth degree, for we didn't know any different. Truly, in this case, ignorance was bliss.

Casting was allowed and I'll tell you, you had to be nimble to keep out of trouble. The method used to cast this unwieldy terminal tackle was to lay the sinker, leader, hook, and bait full out on deck behind you, with the hook resting several inches from your foot. Three feet of line was peeled from the reel, and you made ready to give a mighty cast. The rod was held behind at arm's length, while the fisherman held a side stance, one hand on the butt, the other forward of the reel. The rod was whipped forward, overhead, and out with all the force that could be mustered. That hook and eight ounce sinker shot off the deck in a vicious, powerful cast. Dangerous? You bet! It is no wonder fishermen who insisted upon fishing the stern those days had to be either courageous or foolhardy. Until you got used to all that swinging, flying lead, it was enough to make any fisherman shudder. Even with all that effort, the best distance good casters could achieve with a wooden sidewinder was about forty or fifty feet. And you had to be good to accomplish that.

Oddly enough, hooking accidents were rare. But one day I saw one that made me skittish for a long time. Actually, I knew it wasn't the caster's fault, for I saw exactly what happened This fellow had looked about and warned those around him before he cast, but in the interval of time it took to glance seaward to check the positions of those lines already out, another fisherman on his way to the bait tub walked across the leader and bent over. Because this is a family magazine, I won't tell you where that unfortunate fisherman got that powerfully driven hook; but if you think of the worst place such a calamity could possibly happen to you, you will be close enough.

You might wonder, if the fish were so thick, why it was necessary to cast at all. Here's the reason for that. Casting was usually done only on the side facing into the drift. This enabled the fisherman to cover virgin bottom before the boat passed over it, and also to get a shot at a possible pool-winning doormat. Most pool winners were caught in this manner and experienced fishermen knew it.

But this had to be done in a prescribed manner or it didn't work well. The instant the bait reached bottom, slack had to be taken up quickly and jigging started. Slack was continuously taken up to compensate for the boat's forward movement, the rate of retrieve being governed at all times by this. Usually, no more than two jigs were necessary before a fluke struck. Sometimes when the fish were exceptionally thick, there was a fish on before the slack was reeled in. Just as today, it was important to keep the bait in motion. Incidentally, this is still a good trick to use if you fish aboard your own boat.

Those fellows who fished on the opposite side away from the drift, dropped straight down. It was necessary to jig immediately and feed the line off the reel between lifts of the rod. Failure to do this properly brought the bait off bottom. It seldom was necessary to allow much slack, though, before a fluke took hold. The only disadvantage to this method was the fact that you were only getting those fish missed by other fishermen. As you might imagine, doormats were none too plentiful for these fellows.

Our bait was always a two inch killie. If you were smart, that was the size you selected from the bait tub. I don't remember ever using squid, spearing or sand eel. The hook was always placed through both eyes to withstand the force of the cast. If the fish needed a little coaxing on slow days, we would fillet a fluke and use three inch belly strips in combination

with the killie. This always proved successful if you remembered to allow the fluke extra time to get it down. Many pool winners were caught on this combination.

The average size of the fluke we caught those days was between one-and-a-half and two pounds. Three pounders were common, especially around The Cedars. We rarely saw the shorts that are so prevalent today. This bit of information should give pause for consideration among scientific fishermen. What it means, I don't know; but there is a message there somewhere.

Pool winners usually ran anywhere from six to twelve pounds, and for some strange reason, fluke in the pool winning class were more apt to be eleven pounders than any other weight. Strange, indeed, and I've never been able to come up with a satisfactory answer for this. And also strangely enough, we didn't see many fluke that weighed in the teens. The largest fluke I saw taken during those times weighed a shade over nineteen pounds. This monster was caught by a first-time woman fisherman while fishing off Sea Bright. But such large fluke were indeed rare.

We never netted fluke. When a fluke was too large to be lifted aboard, it was always gaffed. I guess the skipper knew his fishing, for I've seen many large fluke escape a net since then, but that gaff never failed.

Seldom did average-sized fluke drop off the hook when lifted aboard. Most had taken the hook so deeply, it could only be removed by going in through the gill cover. Which proves in my book that there were so many fluke available, competition for food was keen. Those fish absolutely could not afford to toy with the bait. It was hard-to-get food and they grabbed it.

Now I think it's time I told you a little something about those days when fluke fishing left much to be desired. Sure, we had slow days, although many old-timers don't talk much about them. I don't think this is because those off-days are deliberately overlooked, but rather that they were actually so few and far between they have been completely forgotten. I probably would have overlooked them, too, except that my record book for those times won't allow it. It's all there in black and white; the good with the bad.

The main reason for our slow fluke fishing whenever it occurred was due principally to one thing: weather or sea conditions that prevented us from drifting. This could be either a too fast drift that made fishing impossible (usually around full moon time if it was coupled with wind and tide moving in one direction), or just the opposite: not enough current or wind so that we were practically at anchor. Most often it was a too-fast drift that was the villain.

What we did then, whatever the circumstances, was to head for the point of Sandy Hook and anchor. There were always some fluke there. This meant, of course, that continuous casting and jigging was necessary. Those fellows in the bow and stern had no trouble, but it was sad news for those guys fishing midships unless they could get some distance with an underhand cast. The record low catch for me on one of those days was four fluke; it was usually six or seven.

When drifting conditions looked poorly early enough in the morning, we could still salvage the day. We would then run down to Sea Bright, anchor over any of the rock piles offshore and pull all the sea bass we wanted. Killies were the bait and they brought us many nice-sized hump-backs. If drifting conditions turned sour in early afternoon, it was tough luck for everyone. It was then too late for a run of any distance. That 100 horse, four-cylinder Fairbanks-Morse diesel was strictly a slow boat to China when compared with today's speedy fishing craft.

This was fluke fishing in "the old days" as I remember it.

I'm sure there are other old-timers out there who have had similar experiences. If you are one, and if you care to share those memories—or have any comment at all—drop me a line: 20 Dogwood Road, Hampton Bays, New York 11946.

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Catching Fluke On Artificials

by Sal Terranova

Many anglers who fish for fluke believe that the species can only be caught via the traditional method of bait fishing. These anglers totally discount the possibility of racking up a decent catch of fluke by taking them on lures. They regard the occasional instance of a fluke being caught on a lure as "a fluke" indeed (pun intended)! Yet many of these same anglers have never deliberately tried to fish for fluke with lures. If they had, they would no doubt be singing a different song.

In the south shore bays of Long Island, where the overall depth of the water is relatively shallow (averaging eight feet or so), the stage is perfectly set for fluking with lures.

Small one-half to one ounce lures, wielded on a light spinning tackle can account for as many—if not more—fluke than bait fishing; that is, provided that the proper technique is conscientiously applied. Taking fluke in this manner is not only a challenge, but it's a lot of fun to boot!

I usually fish for fluke from a boat in Shinnecock, Moriches, and Great South Bays. I've found the most effective lures in these areas to be the chrome finish jigs like the popular Hopkins No-Eql, and the plastic shrimp lures, like the Salty Dog and Mr. Twister. Both are well known among anglers for causing the demise of many a weakfish. Other types of lures effective on fluke include the time-honored bucktail jigs and the freshwater spinners like the Mepps and Abu Reflex.

While all of these lures will take fish used just as they are, their effectiveness is greatly enhanced by the addition of a strip of squid to the hook. In a pinch, a strip of pork rind may be used. The squid will simulate the tail of a bait fish. Upon retrieving the lure, the strip will provide a fluttering action that fluke find irresistible. The difference in effectiveness of the squid-tipped lure over a plain one is so great that I will rarely venture forth in pursuit of fluke without a supply of squid. The squid strips have the edge over pork rind because the unnatural odor or the solution in which the rind is bottled lacks the appeal that the natural odor of the squid has.

The squid strips that you tip your lure with should be between two and three inches long and shaped like a pennant or elongated teardrop. The wide end should be about one-half inches in width, while the other end tapers to a point. You can also try cutting a notch in the tapered end so that it's forked. This, hopefully, wiil better simulate a fish tail. The wide end is impaled on the hook once to ensure it's having the proper action. As squid is tough, don't worry about the strip coming off the hook in the water. Some anglers have a tendency to run the hook through the strip of squid several times, thinking the squid will remain on the hook longer. When they do this, all they succeed in accomplishing is to bunch it up on the hook and eliminate its fluttering action. The action is what makes the lure so attractive to the fish in the first place. A two or three inch length is fine, as this will discourage short-striking fish. Another advantage of squid strips over pork rind is the length of the commercially available rind, which is generally four to five inches. This allows the fluke to grab the end of it and miss the hook. As fluke are notoriously short strikers, this tends to happen more often than one would suspect.

In case you are wondering why I'm devoting so much space to "mere trivialities," such as how to stick the bait on the hook and so forth, it's because these "mere trivialities" often make the difference between a good catch and a poor catch. Many anglers know the basics, but it's the fine details that escape them. This prevents them from getting the most out of the sport, as the mastery of the fine details is what often separates the mediocre fisherman from the superior fisherman. A six to seven foot light, saltwater spinning rod (a freshwater spinning rod will suffice also), coupled with a lightweight spinning reel in the class of the Shakespeare 2400, Penn 716, Daiwa 1500, or others like them, should comprise your basic outfit. The reel should be filled with six or eight pound test. The lures you're going to be using will range from one-half to one ounce. Since you're going to be fishing in the shallow waters of the bays, this outfit will not only balance beautifully with the weight of the lures being used, but it will also be ideal for the waters that you are going to fish in. This outfit will also be light enough to ensure that even a "short" fluke will put up a decent scrap.

There are several ways of working your lures in this type of fishing. They are all variations on a theme. What you're supposed to be doing with your lure is trying to imitate the actions of a small bait fish of the type that fluke feed on. Imagine a typical spearing or sand eel, scurrying about nervously, wary of that big doormat on the prowl for a snack. Your lure should be doing the same thing the sand eel or spearing is doing: stopping and going, darting about, but with one major difference—bait fish don't always stay near the bottom, but your lure will. Keep in mind that although you should bounce your lure off the bottom during your retrieve, never let it get too far from the bottom; otherwise, you will be violating the golden rule of fluke fishing. Fluke are bottom-feeders, so if you want to catch them, that's where your lure has got to be.

One of the better methods when using the Hopkins-type lures is to cast in the direction of the drift, allow the lure to sink to the bottom, and proceed to reel it in slowly. On every two or three turns of the reel handle, give the lure a slight jerk, thereby causing it to bounce off the bottom a foot or two, and then let it settle back down. As it drops back to the bottom, reel in for a couple of turns, then bounce it again. Continue to repeat this process until the lure has been retrieved. You will find that many hits will occur when the lure is dropped back to the bottom. A straight, slow retrieve along the bottom is also good, as long as the retrieve is not so slow as to eliminate the wobbling action built into the lure. Just bouncing it up and down off the bottom and letting it flutter downward, bringing out the flash of the lure's finish will also work.

Any of the three methods described work, but I have found I've had the most success with the first method described—the "retrieve-bounce-retrieve." However, it does pay to vary your methods and the speed of your retrieves until you hit the winning combination that our finny friends are game for on that particular day.

Sunny, bright days when the water is clear, are the best days to use the chrome-finish jigs. The flashing effect of these lures will be best brought out under these conditions. Avoid the use of lures equipped with treble hooks, as unhooking a fish caught on one of these can be a royal pain-in-the-neck—not to mention a waste of fishing time! A single hook is sufficient. Hopkins puts out single-hook lures with a tuft of feathers on them, which adds further to their fish-catching ability. Although I prefer the Hopkins lures, please keep in mind that most of

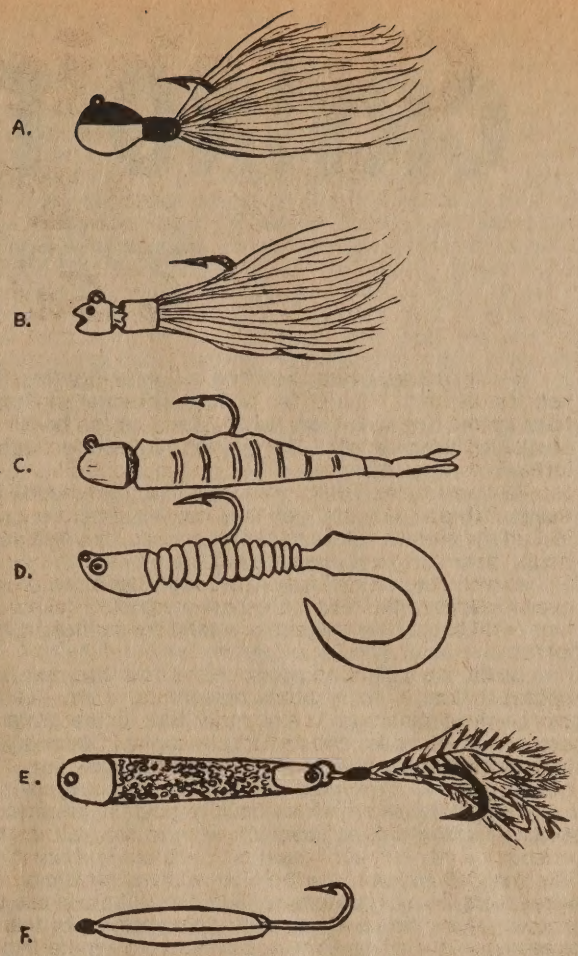
the chrome finish jigs will work. Small diamond jigs, Kastmasters and so on, are quite effective.

Two of the three retrieves that I mentioned also work well when you're using the plastic shrimp lures like the Salty Dog and the Mr. Twister. The slow retrieve-bounce-slow retrieve and a straight, slow retrieve along the bottom are the only two retrieves I've had luck with when fishing squid-tipped Dogs and Twisters. The various types of spinners are best fished by using a straight, slow to medium retrieve which keeps the lure slightly off the bottom. Here I'm referring to the freshwater spinners, such as the Mepps and Abu-Reflex, which should be tipped with squid. In this case, the spinner is being fished as a lure as opposed to the use of spinners attached to the leader of a baited fluke hook, where the spinners only purpose is to attract the fluke to a natural bait. The time-honored bucktail jig, which catches practically any saltwater fish that takes a lure, is most effective on fluke when fished in one particular fashion. Your squid-tipped bucktail should be retrieved in a way that causes the jig to take short, skittering bounces along the bottom. This is best accomplished by retrieving slowly, while applying slight jerks to the rod in a regular rhythm.

Of all the lures mentioned here, I favor the chrome finish jigs and the plastic shrimp lures. These lures can be worked successfully in several ways; whereas the spinners are a bit limited and the bucktails take quite a bit of time to get the hang of. One key point to remember: when using lures, try all variations of the retrieve, provided the lure stays near the bottom—because that's where it belongs. Keep in mind, it always pays to experiment. It's only through trial-and-error that you will ultimately learn. I'm sure the first guy who tried to catch fish on a piece of surgical tubing must have endured a lot of ribbing; nevertheless, he prevailed. Always experiment. Who knows if you might not become the originator of next year's hot new lure or method?

Although you can expect to bag a few fluke almost anywhere in the Bays, some areas are more productive than "almost anywhere" for fluking. One potential fluke "hotspot" is the sudden dropoff into deeper water at the edge of a sand bar. An area where the flats drop off into a channel is also good. Fluke tend to congregate on the down-current side of these dropoffs, waiting for the tide to push down the schools of bait fish from the flats into deeper water, where the fluke ambush them. Therefore, it behooves you to drift along the edges of the sand bars and channels, casting your lure as you go. As these areas are usually the most productive, always make it a point to give them a good going-over. Try casting your lure up on the bar or the flats (tide and wind permitting ... you don't want to get stuck on a sand bar!). Work it off the drop, then get ready! One favorite spot of mine is the flats slightly off to the northwest of the Robert Moses Bridge in the Fire Island Inlet. Here the flats are above water at low tide and barely covered at high water. The water at the edge of the flats drops off to about fifteen feet. Drifting along the edge here, I work my lure off of them and into the deeper water. I usually rack up a decent catch. Another favorite spot of mine, which illustrates perfectly the classic fluke "hotspot," is the sand bar that divides four foot deep flats from the seven foot depths of the channel just south of Buoy 20 in Shinnecock Bay. Areas like these abound in Moriches, Shinnecock and Great South Bays. They should be your top priorities when you go out fluking. It also helps to purchase a copy of Nautical Chart 12352, "Shinnecock Bay to East Rockaway Inlet." This will help you locate the best fluke "hotspots."

You can also catch fluke on lures when fishing out on the ocean, but since that's a whole other ball game, it's outside the scope of this article. So I will only mention it in passing. Briefly, the deeper water and stronger tides you will encounter offshore will render the tackle and methods described above unfeasible. Offshore, you will have to use heavier tackle and lures to cope with the different conditions. You will have to use the standard party boat outfit: heavier (spinning gear is acceptable, though not preferable), conventional reel and boat rod. The only lures heavy enough to get you on the bottom and that are attractive to the fluke are the diamond jigs and Ava jigs in the four to six ounce weights.



SAMPLING OF SOME EFFECTIVE FLUKE LURES
A—Lima-bean head bucktail; B—Smilen' Bill head bucktail; C—Plastic shrimp lure; D. Plastic shrimp lure with "Twister" tail; E—Chrome finished Hopkins NO-EQL jig; F—Tin squid.

Fluke seem to strike lures more savagely than they do a baited hook. They often hook themselves in the process and, if they don't, all that's required on the angler's part is to give the rod a decent jerk immediately after feeling the hit. This is another reason I prefer artificials over bait. Lures eliminate the aggravation that fluke can give you when setting the hook on a baited rig. As anyone who has fished for fluke knows, they can be downright ornery, often playing with the bait, tugging on the end, picking it up, dropping it, then picking it up again. Sometimes they just sit there, trying to decide whether or not they should swallow the offering. Meanwhile, the angler is going bananas trying to decide if the fluke has swallowed the bait or not, signalling the proper time for him to set the hook. Often he may have to feed out the line to try and convince the fluke to swallow the bait. This can lead to anyone's patience wearing thin. In my case, it usually does. At this point, I have been known to disturb the general serenity of the scene by uttering comments which, fortunately, cannot be printed here. Both these nuisances are almost totally eliminated when fishing with lures.

Fluke hooked on artificials seem to put up a better fight than those taken on bait. Some fishing buddies of mine insist that this difference exists solely in my imagination. Although I would be hard-pressed to come up with a rational explanation as to why a lure-hooked fluke should fight any better than a fluke hooked on bait, I am willing to bet my bottom dollar that this is so! However, I will have to leave this matter to those more well-versed than I in matters of piscatorial curiosities.

There exists a good possibility of bagging almost any species of fish found in the bays when using lures. I've caught weakfish, bluefish (ranging from snappers to five

(Continued on page 10.)

CRYING THE BLUES

by Andy Regina

You'd be hard-pressed to find a harder-fighting fish than the bluefish. Pound for pound, saltwater or fresh, those babies are tough; so tough that I never fail to be amazed at their strength—if and when I'm lucky enough to latch onto one of them.

They are pelagic fish, meaning that they travel the oceans of the world, and yet they are also inshore game fish, often being caught in bays and sounds, at times close enough to shore to enrichen the stringers of beach-rats. In fact, so many are caught from the beach that many people honestly believe that this is the best method of fishing for them—although knowledgeable anglers know that such is not the case at all. Most sport fishermen harvest these fish from boats, via trolling, jigging, or bait fishing; peak runs witness a fleet of party boats resembling some floating city, on the grounds both day and night. These armadas only slightly surpass the trolling fleet, or the mosquito fleet fishing bait at the mouth of some harbor.

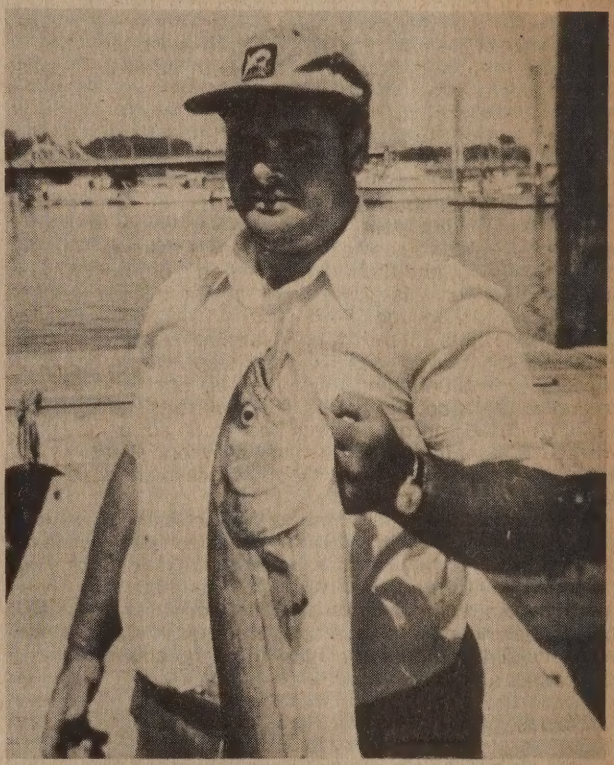
As great as the appeal of these fish is, our disdain of crowded conditions anywhere usually sends us elsewhere, seeking more secluded quarters. Blame this trait on any number of things: our negative reaction to New York City's transit system, years of crowded party boats, old age or a chronic cussedness: we just don't like crowds, but we love to fish. And we circumvent this problem by fishing from shore or fishing from a private boat, or fishing at night. Of these, fishing from shore at night is the most secluded, but fishing from private boats any day except on weekends can be almost as rewarding, condition-wise.

The ideal situation arose when my fishing partner and I had our vacations at the same time. Now we could fish on his boat any weekday, free from weekend boat traffic. And our timing couldn't have been better: bluefish were reported in the Sound, at Stepping Stone Light, just west of the Throgg's Neck Bridge, and mere minutes from our berth in City Island. Surprising our families with unaccustomed Sunday attendance, we laid our plans by phone for our own private bluefish attack that first Monday.

Every year sees Long Island Sound playing host to vast schools of bait fish that attract game fish predators, such as bluefish, striped bass, and weakfish; mackerel, bunker, and more recently, sand eels, are a natural source of game fish diets. Where they go, the big boys follow, dining along the way. Bluefish are particularly fond of bunker, herding them into compact masses before they slash through the balled-up bait like animated chopping machines. And the bluefish is ideally built for such macabre work: sleek and muscular, with powerful forked tails to add thrust to their speed, and equipped with a wicked set of dentures that can cut large bait in half with one snap of powerful jaws—Pomatus salatrix fears no living creature.

We were in luck. Schools of bunker had been appearing at daybreak, right behind City Island. We'd leave early, spot some, snag some with those weighted treble-hook snagging rigs we had, and then fish cut bait near Stepping Stone Light. I set the alarm for 4AM—it was gonna be an early day for us.

We met in a fog that rivalled any Sherlock Holmes movie I ever saw. It was so dense that we had to feel our way out of the slip, bumping the Georgia-B off the black can that was the marker for the channel route we knew would lead us behind the Island. And we proceeded cautiously, staying within sight of land, a scant few yards



Joe with the Lone Ranger, that solitary bluefish caught on a Dardevle Sea Devil.

off to port, guided southwest by the mournful wail of Stepping Stone Light—unseen, but heard plainly. As we neared the old end dock at the southwest end of City Island, we slowed our boat even more, and strained to see the telltale signs of bunker on the surface.

There were no bunker. We had built our whole plan on obtaining fresh bunker for bait, and this morning there were none! Joe cut the engine and I poured the coffee, and we sat and sipped as we bemoaned our fate and tried to come up with another game plan. Frozen bunker was out as far as we were concerned: although still probably good in a pinch, we hold that fresh bait is better. Not only does fresh bait hold up longer and better than thawed-out frozen stuff, but we think that the fresh scent and body juices of fresh bait adds an additional fish-appealing dimension to fishing, and so far we have yet to be proven wrong. Our personal successes with fresh and frozen baits always showed a clear-cut difference, with fresh stuff coming out way ahead all the time.

The coffee tasted lousy as we sat there feeling sorry for ourselves, bandying "ifs" and "buts" around as we killed some time, reluctant to return to port so early and so soundly defeated. And as we sat there, we heard a sound that could only be described as surf pounding a beach—unusual around City Island, where there just ain't any surf! We cranked up and slowly headed towards that sound, using our ears as radar to lead us as we headed across channel, towards Hart Island.

We actually blundered into a large school of bunker

that was periodically leaping out of the water en masse, creating that whooshing sound we heard, and reminding me of the sound made by whales broaching. The bunker were balled up and under attack—a sure sign of game fish feeding, sending hundreds of foot-long bunker showering out of the water in a mad bid to escape sudden death by the lethal jaws below.

Man, you should have seen us. We were so nervous and so anxious, that we couldn't do a thing right! First off, I couldn't untangle the rods fast enough (they were all hung up by the snag jigs we had attached earlier) to be instantly available when needed. Then Joe hooked the boat canvas as he jerked his rod free. Did you ever try to take a treble hook jig out of canvas without making the hole worse? I saw the sailmaker's cash register ringing up our dollars as Joe ripped through, cast into the school, and was instantly latched onto bunker, cranking it in furiously so that we could get our baits down to those bluefish.

There are many ways to fish with bunker. We use whole live bunker, live-lined near points and jetties for stripers, and drift cut chunks for blues. Only this time we had no takers, although we were still with the bunker school, and they were still being attacked. We figured that perhaps the killers below were stripers, so we made the change from cut chunks to live bait.

Fishing with live bunker is a whole different ballgame. First, you choose a bait that is not gut-wounded by the snag jig, and then you hook it on a big hook (7/0 or 8/0 O'Shaugnessy is good), piercing the bunker through the back deep enough to maintain a firm hook-hold, but not so deep as to kill the bait by piercing its spinal column. And for bass, you don't need those wire leaders so necessary to bluefishing, because bass don't cut through mono as blues do. Simply tie the hook to the end of your line, using an improved clinch knot to do so, or go with a three-foot length of forty pound test mono leader if you want that racer's edge against sharp rocks or those sharp gill plates of big bass.

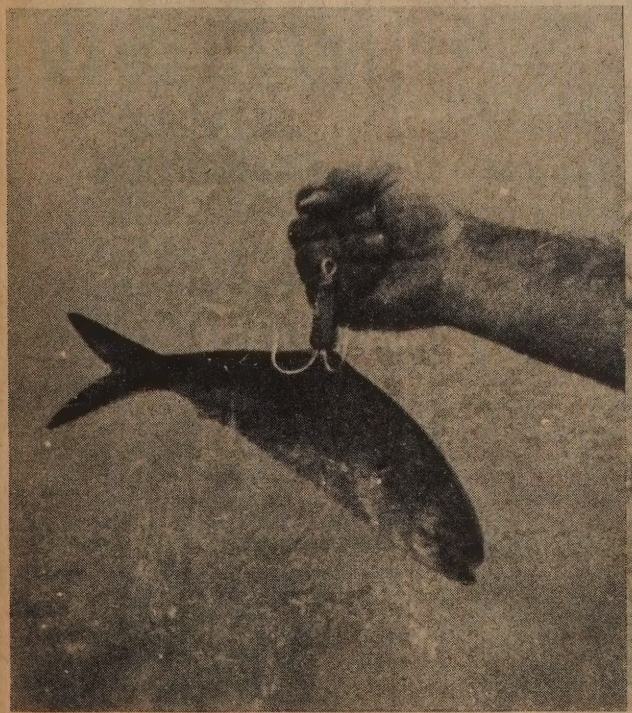
Lay that live bunker gently on the water and watch him swim away, towing your free-spooled line as he seeks the imagined safety of his school below. If you want that bait to stay high, hook it in front of the dorsal fin. To get the bunker to swim deep where larger fish usually lurk as a rule, feasting on pieces of bait that settle slowly down, place your hook near the bunker's tail, and watch him make like a mini-submarine.

You can actually feel the story below in your fingertips. First you feel that bunker gently tugging your line out as he swims away; then you can feel him start to swim a helluvalot faster, and even come right up on top, splashing around frantically. That's a sure sign that he has been selected as some bass or bluefish snack, and all the hectic dashes or frantic splashes ain't gonna help—he's gone, brother, as you'll find out in another instant. Unseen pick-ups reveal themselves as the line starts to peel off your reel at a fast pace. **Do not** set that hook yet: wait a few seconds for that slight pause that signals that the bass is turning that bunker around in his mouth, preparing to swallow the whole thing. Another runoff, another second's delay before setting the hook, and then give it your best shot, striking upward with your rod sharply several times to set that big hook into the tough bone and gristle of that mouth—and then hold on and pray that you set that drag properly!

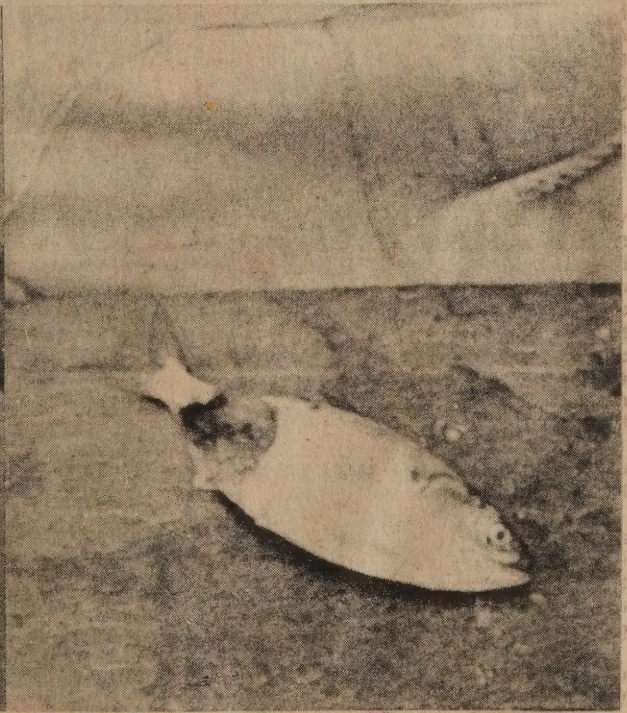
That's exactly what happened to me, only I came up empty—even my hook was gone, and I had to take Joe's kidding about not knowing how to tie knots—until the same thing happened to him! Of course it was bluefish after all, cutting that mono with ease—so we switched to mono-covered wire leaders. And I had a hit that sliced off a fillet of bunker as nicely as you would with a knife, but no bluefish. It had struck short and I had impatiently struck too soon. I snagged another unwilling volunteer, and repeated the whole thing all over again. Still no fish.

I don't know what happened. We stayed with that school of bunker for two hours, and they were constantly being attacked all the while. We tried live bunker, dead bunker, chunk bunker, and even filleted strips of bunker—all to no avail. We switched to jigs, tried Bananas, went out of our gourds...but no fish. Then Joe hooked up, using a big Sea Devil lure, and we finally managed to boat one sixteen-pound bluefish before the bunker disappeared as if by magic, taking the feeding blues with them.

And I still can't figure it out. Maybe those jumbo blues smelled our human scent on the bait; maybe they only wanted undamaged bunker. Maybe any one of a hundred different maybes. All I know is that our motor broke down on our way back that day, and as luck would have it, we had to wait two weeks for some part—which shot the hell out of our vacation plans. Is it any wonder that we were crying the blues?



Freshly snagged bunker, and those weighted trebles we use to snag 'em with.



The results of my premature attempts at hooking a blue. Could "Jaws" be any less, all things being equal?

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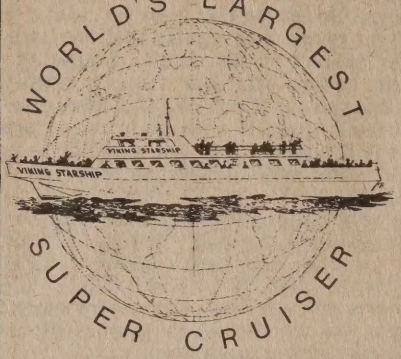

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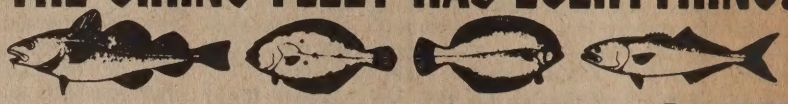

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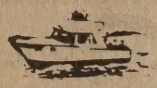

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Capt. Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Fleet** reports that the cod at Coxes Ledge has slowed down a bit, but anglers are still getting enough to make the trip worthwhile. The fluking remains fair with big fish being taken to make up for lack of quantity. A 10 lbr. and a 14 lbr. were both boated this past week. The porgy fishing remains good just off the Point, fish of mixed sizes. Fantastic is the only word to describe the night blues, says Paul, which are running from 12 to 22 lbs. They are usually back at the dock around midnight with Saturday night's crowd leaving behind 1400 lbs. of blues for the mates. The fish have been two feet under the surface at Cartwright, attacking whole herring. The next Nantucket Wreck trip sails September 10 and is nearly all booked, so call quickly to reserve a spot. The next scheduled Nantucket Wreck trip will be for October 22, sailing at 11:30 p.m. It's advised that you reserve early on this trip also.

Capt. Gary Kieffer of the charter boat **Barracuda** called to tell us that offshore on Wednesday a 55 lb. yellowfin tuna was taken, as were some 15-20 lb. tuna and a 150 lb. blue shark, all in the chum slick. On Saturday, the bluefishing slowed slightly, but was still good. On Sunday, he had four tuna up to 25 lbs., 15 bonito and 15 dolphin. An estimated 5-foot-long dolphin was hooked, but after six beautiful jumps the hook was spit out.

Westlake Fishing Lodge reports Capt. Mike Bock, aboard the private boat Kayper, with the Lipton Family landed 3 rod and reel swordfish weighing 130, 170 and 208 lbs. They had also dropped one. Fishing 500

Henry Cawthorn, well known British angler, traveled all the way from England to experience the fury of the Montauk porgy. Photo courtesy of the 'Vivienne' out of Montauk.

Russ Knorr and Merle Meggison with weakfish of 10½, 10, 8½ and 8 lbs., caught at the Sub Buoy off Montauk. Photo courtesy of Gone Fishing Marina.

fathoms, the private boat Our Lady, brought in 4 yellowfin tuna weighing 50-70 lbs. in Westlake. The Boat Valkarie had two tuna, weighing 123 and 170 lbs. respectively.

Capt. Frank of the charter boat **Free Spirit** reports a continuation of great offshore fishing. Tuesday, Frank landed a 150 lb. mako and several brown sharks. Wednesday, a 400 lb. plus mako which spit the hook after 2 magnificent jumps. Several big blue sharks were tagged. Friday's charter landed a 70 lb. mako along with two 90 lb. brown sharks. Saturday Frank boated a small mako and several small tuna in the 20 lb. class. Sunday's offshore trip was dynamite. Frank landed three makos of 11, 70 and 140 lbs. Frank has been fishing the second set of fingers on the west bank of the Butterfish Hole and his preferred bait has been fresh

Emilio Tandolphi of Ct. with a 555 lb. giant bluefin tuna taken aboard Captain Phil Lewis' "Adios" out of Montauk.

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Tony, Gene and Frank Bifulio and Al, Flor and Steve Daddario with a mako, a tuna and several blue sharks taken on mullet at the West Fingers aboard Capt. Pete Van Alst's charter boat "Modar II."

bonito fillets. Tuna have been hitting good on green and yellow feathers and jet lures. Frank wants to remind fishermen to book their inshore half day and full day trips now.

The Marlin IV reports that porgies and sea bass remained great until Monday, when the action slowed down a bit. Super fishing was had Thursday through Sunday, close in off the Lighthouse, with some fares having two bags apiece full of fish. The night bluefishing trips have been loading people up with Sunday night's trip affording all hands 20-25 big choppers from 16-18 lbs., working Cartwright. These night trips are every night at 7 PM.

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Shown are a 115 lb. mako and two 170 lb. blue sharks taken on the charter boat "Free Spirit" by Ralph Terysen and Steve Trifari.

Capt. Ron Grandinetti of the **Julie III** had a 5 man charter out last Saturday, led by Gene Lee. They took 86 fluke from 2-6 lbs. and also a load of porgies fishing Shagwong and North Rips. Ron has been running to Block Island, weather permitting. His bluefish trips have taken as many as 200 blues per trip, with a scattering of weaks mixed in. All in all, fishing was super for the entire week.

Capt. Phil Lewis of the charter boat **Adios** reports that his charters have produced catches of large monster blues at Cartwright and small blues at the Sub Buoy. He has also had shark trips which produced makos and blue shark. Giant tuna are still around, with a few boats hooking up every day. Theoretically, the bass should be coming in in another two weeks and Phil asks that you book now for the bass season as his calendar is filling up rapidly.

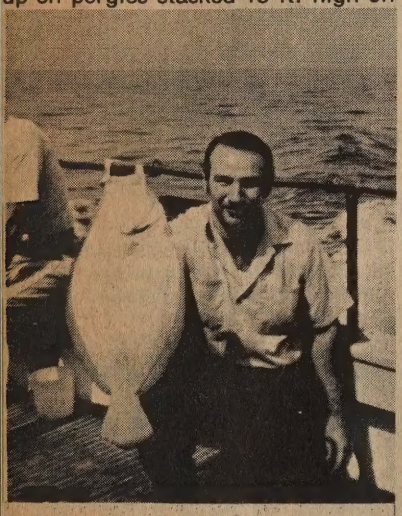
Donald Seward and Donald Thompson with their catch of blues taken at Midway and large fluke caught south of the Montauk Lighthouse. Subscriber club photo.

Frieda from **Cove Marina** reported that the fishing was fantastic and the weather couldn't be any better. The boat Kyrios had caught tuna SE of Block Island. Chris Hansen fishing 195 ft. of water south of the Lighthouse caught some dolphin and bonito, his best being 186 lb. wahoo which was caught by his friend, Vincent Bonici. The boat Shark Hunter had sharks, bonito and tuna all week. Lou Carrillo had excellent porgies, blue, tuna and shark fishing. The boat, Bonnie, had a mess of fluke and blues. The boat Prowler, with Capt. Gary Frison had a brown shark weighing 250 lbs. and a blue shark weighing 150. He also had a beautiful 80 lb. mako, and lost a tuna fishing the Butterfish Hole. The boat Denise had an excellent catch of bonito and fluke. Duke Harrison had a 163 lb.

mako. Excellent weakfishing and monstrous fluke were caught at the dock over the weekend, with the heaviest fluke weighing 13 lbs.

Viking Skipper II reports that off the Lighthouse and at Midway, action has been up and down according to the weather. With catches of mainly jumbo porgies, sea bass and blacks, Saturday saw some anglers filling two or more 5-gallon buckets. Other anglers had less fish. Mostly it's porgies. Sunday, the fish developed lockjaw, although the boat anchored up on porgies stacked 15 ft. high off the bottom, they pick only a few of them. At least the fish are known to be there in large concentrations.

Star Island Yacht Club called to report that the tuna action was good on Saturday, with 9 giants coming in along with a 385 lb. mako. Fluking is fair to good in the Rips and the bluefishing at Cartwright is very strong.



Michael Paino took this pool winning 7¾ lb. fluke fishing squid and spearing aboard the "Jigger III" out of Montauk. Subscriber club photo.

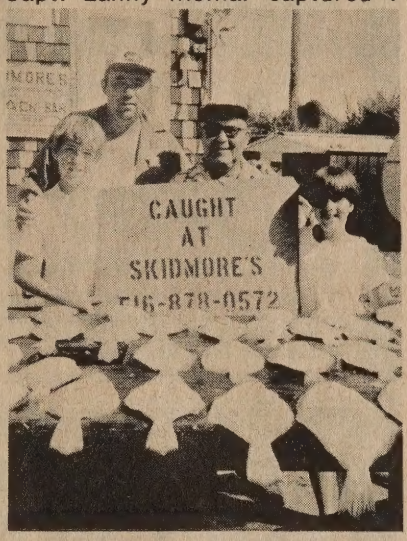
SOUTH FORK
★ BEST BET ★
FLUKE

SHINNECOCK

The Capt. Clark Fleet reports that they started blackfishing Saturday and results were fair to good with numbers of medium sized fish also with some 5 to 6 lbrs. mixed in, all on local wrecks. The porgy action has remained good, with a few kings and weaks mixed in on Peconic west end wrecks. The **Capt. Clark II** fished offshore wrecks on Saturday, taking fair catches of sea bass and good catches of blacks. Crabs are available on the boat.

HAMPTON BAYS

Ronnie of **Tony's Fishing Station** called to report good flounder action in front of the station at buoy 21. Fluke fishing over the weekend was only so-so. Ronnie's son Frank Kuczynski took 3rd place in the Shinnecock Anglers Jr. Division over the weekend with a 2½ lb fluke out of Indian Cove Marina. Offshore good news: action was super Sunday as reported from the Bahama Mama fishing out of Shinnecock Inlet in 180' of water. Crew, Chip, Kip, Ray and Capt. Lanny Molnar captured 7



The Donohue family of Wantagh with their catch of 29 keeper fluke to 3½ lbs., taken between buoys 39 and 41 on killies. Photo courtesy of Skidmore's Fishing Station.

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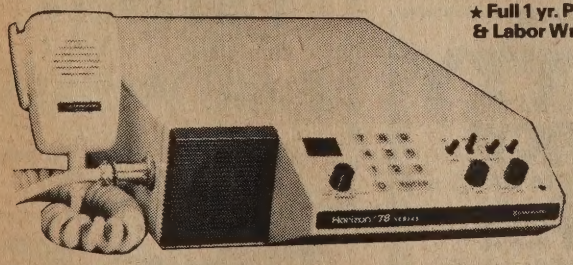

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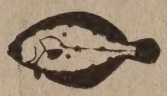

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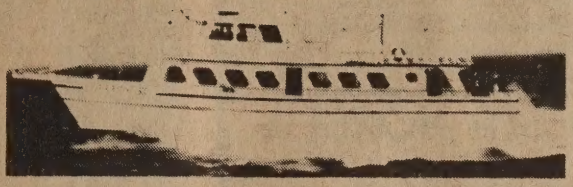

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duskies, 2 blues and 1 yellowfin tuna of 40 lbs. Towards the end of the day, Chip hooked up using 50 lb. tackle. One hours and 45 mins. later, the fish was brought into the boat and it was a tiger and huge. The fish was towed in and weighed at Nick's Marina at 813 lbs. SUPER offshore action. They suspect this will be a record fish.

Altenkirch Bait and Tackle reports yellowfin tuna and true albacore are being caught in 160 ft. of water or about 20 mi. off the beach on feathers and jet lures, with a few marlin being raised. Fluke action has improved in the Shinnecock Inlet on sand eels, squid and killies; 5 makos up to 200 lbs. were taken over the weekend around the 140 ft. mark. Plenty of snappers all over. Blues outside the inlet on trolled white tubes working best. Good catches of blueclaws in the canals at night when the locks are closed.

Corr's Fishing Station reports that fluke have been picky, but some skiffs are doing in the high 20s per trip. East Channel at the Inlet has been best. Valley st.eam sharpie Herman Schuster bagged 29 keepers on Saturday, using sand eels, shiners, killies and squid. There are also a few small blues in the bay.

MORICHES BAY

Bill at **East Moriches Bait and Tackle** tells us that a 327 lb. mako was taken by Fred Getty of Farmingville at the 135 ft. line SE of Moriches in just 2½ hrs. A reminder that the Great Gun Anglers Shark Tournament will be held Sept. 9 with $3,000 in guaranteed prize money. Call Bill for further info.

Three-year-old Erik Hehl, of Mastic, caught this 4½ lb. bluke on August 13, 1978 while fishing with his father, Mark, near Moriches Inlet. The boat was launched from Al's Hi-Way in East Moriches. Subscriber Club photo.

GREAT SOUTH BAY
★ BEST BET ★
FLUKE

MASTIC BEACH

Gary at **Stiriz' Fishing Station** reports good fluke this past week from buoys 19-26 on killie, squid, spearing and sand eels, fish up to 4 lbs. Good snapper fishing all over the place, with 115 being high hook for one boat. Fairly good crabbing with high claw being 60 from buoy 12 to 19.

SAYVILLE

Young's Fishing Station reports a lot of weaks around and in big numbers. East Island on squid strips, at buoy 4 and of course, behind the clam dredges off Sayville fish 3-6 lbs. Fluke in the same area, also on squid strips. A few school bass at buoy 4, East Island. A few king fish mixed with the weaks, but you need smaller hooks for these . Also try the State Channel towards Ocean Beach for fluke. Dave Croko and Mike Gardiner had 14 weaks and 8 fluke Sat., off

Sayville. Doc Pine and Al Morgan had 18 weaks from 1-3 miles of Sayville. This is all on squid strips behind the dredge boats.

WEST SAYVILLE

Mike at **South Bay Fishing Station** reports good fluking at buoy 17, Ocean Beach and also buoys 28 and 30 on squid and sand eels. Snappers are great and are now 8-10 inches long.

BAY SHORE

The Casey Lee reports fluking has been good on the last of the flood and the first of the ebb from the Lighthouse to the Inlet and also Snake Hill Channel on killies and sand eels working best. Friday was the best day, with seven fares decking 64 keeper fluke. Most days the catch averages 3-7 fish per man, mostly 2-3 lbrs., with the pool usually going 5-6 lbs.

Smokey's Bait and Tackle reports fluke very good Wed. through Sun. on sand eels and squid, with the best being the last of the flood from the bridge to the inlet. A bunch of 2-4 lb. weakfish have been taken at Dickerson's Channel on squid and spearing. There are a few scattered blowfish. Two to four lb. blues are zipping around the inlet up to the Lighthouse and are hitting tins and poppers. Watch for the bird activity. Snappers excellent all over the bay and all the canals. Six to 15 lbs. blues on the outside from Cherry Grove to the Patchogue beaches and south of the Inlet, along with bonito and albacore on trolled feathers. Tuna at the 120 ft. mark, 115° out, around the Oregon wreck on black and white or red and white feathers and cedar jigs. A good showing of nice sized porgies in any deep holes, from 1½ to 3 lbs., on clam and ground clam chum pot.

Danny Geraghty called from Islip to report a nice catch from his 18' Formula while fishing with friends Andy Desmond and Ray Camilleri in the FI Inlet area in about 110' of water. He weighed his Mako in at Neil's at the Bay Shore Marina. It was hooked at about 4:30 and took about 2 hrs. to land. Fish was caught on 60 lb. mono using a Penn 49 reel.

CAPTREE

THE Capt. Scotty reports that the night blues have ranged from fair to very, very good and he is now running two bluefish trips daily, at 7AM and 7PM.

The open boat **Lady Jess** has revised their sailing time and instead of sailing at 7 AM daily will be sailing at 8 AM daily.

Charter boat **Lady Ann** reports night blues are still a total slaughter. Saturday night's reservation trip got 15 men over 200 blues. Sun. night's reservation trip for 30 people, resulted in nearly 500 choppers coming over the rail, all on bait. This is south of the inlet in 80 ft. of water. Due to the excellent bluefishing, Capt. Walter is adding an additional afternoon reservation trip to be held on Sun., Sept. 24, sailing at 4PM. Day bluefishing is good one day and picky the next. Sat. saw a productive fluke charter, with over 100 fluke being taken in the inlet.

The Captree Queen reports fluking fair to good most of the week, average catch 4-6 keepers per man. Fri. and Sat. count was over that. Friday was one of the better days of the month. Most days see 100-200 fluke on the boat, most in the 1½ to 2½ lb. range. Best action has been west of the Moses bridge west to the Inlet. Sunday's and Monday's afternoon trips were slow due to the heavy boat traffic on the Labor Day weekend. Best was between buoys 4 and 11 on the change and also on the running tide. The boat will be running its afternoon fluke trips at least through Sept. 17 and perhaps longer, depending on availability of fluke and on the weather.

BABYLON

Augie's Bait and Tackle reports fluking Fri. and Sat. was very much improved with a new big body of fish moving in. However, things slowed on Sun. and Mon. Dave Cappela, age 9, bagged a 4 lb. 8 oz. fluke on sand eels, west of the Moses Bridge. Two small chummed bass were weighed in. The shop will by the weekend have fiddler crabs in stock for blackfish. Two to four pound blues have been taken in 75-80 ft. of water. Snapper fishing has been great. Tuna catches have slowed down locally over the 3-day holiday.

Charter boat **Sea Ranger** called to tell us that Friday and Saturday nights bluefish trip was nothing short of fantastic with the fish being close by off the Tower in 75 ft. of water. Capt. John says there were 2 or 3 fish on all the time, hitting skippy chunks, and we don't mean peanut butter. These are 2-4 lbrs. High hook was 27 fish. The water is alive with fish offshore, with squid and anchovies homing in on the boat's lights. John says the fishing is super.

SOUTH SHORE BAYS
★ BEST BET ★
FLUKE

LINDENHURST

The Sea Horse reports fluking remains steady in Fire Island Inlet from the CG Station to the lighthouse. Best results are the last of the flood and the first of the ebb. From then on, it's a slow pick. Catches are averaging 3 to 10 keepers per man. Fish are hitting on killie, squid and sand eels and are running 2-3 lbs.

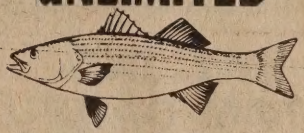
COPIAGUE

Larry at **Bait and Tackie Unlimited** reports snapper fishing is great with the baby blues now 8-12 inches long. This is on spearing on a float or small tins. Fluke in the State Channel east and west of the Moses bridge and in the inlet on squid, killies or live snapper. Weakfish in the early morning at the Lighthouse on live snappers. Blues a couple of miles out of the inlet on out from 9-13 lbrs. with smaller fish at Cholera.

AMITYVILLE

George Combs Bait and Tackle reports Sunday's action was good with bonito at the 80 ft. mark at Cholera. Blues in 90-100 ft. area, trolled up to 14 lbs. on umbrellas. Tuna in 150 ft. of water on a 200°

FISH UNLIMITED



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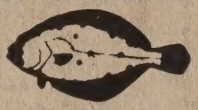
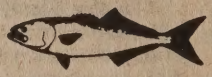


BLUES
FLUKE
WEAKS



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heading on green and yellow tandem feather rigs and on Cedar jigs. Tuna off the Texas Tower, which is about 60 miles off the beach at a 140° heading. This is on Kona beads. Tuna fishermen are also finding success with spearing chum. A 55 lb. true albacore was taken by a squadron anglers' boat. Great offshore fishing, says George. Lots of 2-3 lb. blues just a short way off the beach on umbrellas and on jigs. Fluke from the lighthouse east, in the State Channel at Gilgo and in Grape Island Channel down to the Wantagh Bridge on sand eels, killies and squid. Try fishing big killies 3 ft. off the bottom while drifting fluke, which at times work better than sand eels. The shop will have green crabs by the weekend.

SEAFORD

Big Ed at **Shore Isle Marina** tells us that Paul Inselman and Dad, caught a 65 lb. mako at the 120 ft. mark at a 170 heading out of Jones. Hal Nussdorf bagged 20 blues at Cholera on bunker chunks. More porgies in the evening at the first Wantagh on bunker chum and worms. Porgies are from 1/2 to ¾ lbs. Ed Zak trolled 14 skippies, 3 tuna and 4 bonito at the HA on red and white feathers.

Capt. Eddie's Fishing Station reports the fluking has been spotty, but that there are loads of snappers around from 10-12 inches long on small spearing and tins. A few blowfish being caught. Good catches of bay porgies at Massapequa Cove and most of the deeper holes with some blackfish at the bridges on clam, worms and fiddlers.

BELLMORE

Joe Carter of the Tournament Anglers took his Blue Max to the Canyon Wed. and Sat. and had yellowfin tuna to 66 lbs. on Sat., white marlin and skipjack on rigged squid, rigged balao and feathers. The white marlin that he caught was 43 lbs.

Bronco the singing dog at **Merrick Marine Tackle Center** sung about great bluefishing at Cholera for those trolling, chumming or jigging. Tuna, bonito, albacore and dolphin at the HA on Kona beads, Jet lures, feathers and Cedar jigs. Fluking nothing to rave about. Snappers all over the place and growing.

MERRICK

Jimmy at **Nick's Fishing Station** says that Sat. was the best day of the 3-day weekend with the best areas being Merrick Pt. towards the golf course and rowboat alley on killies and squid. Blues were good Sat. for boats trolling the area of the 2nd buoy out of Jones and for those chumming at Cholera. There has been a showing of porgies and snappers are all over the place, tearing up fluke baits. Jim Bolukos, Jr. got the first giant tuna of his life fishing at Gloucester, Mass.

★SHEEPSHEAD BAY★

$13 • NITE BLUES • EVERY WED. & SAT. NIGHT • 5 PM

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★ From Tamaqua Fishing Station ★

(5 Min. from Sheepshead Bay) For info & Dir.

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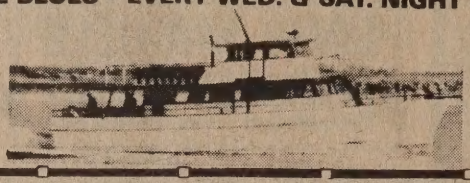

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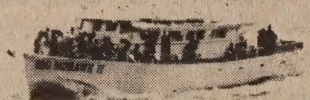

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All Types of Fishing, Both Days or Nights!

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BEST FLUKING IN YEARS!!!

Blue Sea III

BIG 90' • ALL LATEST ELECT. • LADIES ACCOM.

NOT FOOD • HELPFUL CREW

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★7 PM★ FRI. & SAT. **BLUES** ★7 PM★ FRI. & SAT.

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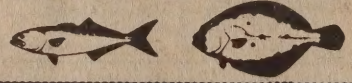

NITE BLUES • 7 PM

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(Sunday Night Charters Available)

FLUKE • 9AM DAILY

★ *FAST ALUMINUM SUPER CRUISER* ★

100 Ft. Length • 24 Ft. Beam • 3 Turbo-Charged V-12's for 1800 HP • Full Electron.

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"Atomic Power gets you to the grounds faster – MORE FISHING TIME!"

FLUKE SPECIALIST

DOROTHY B

Big 85' • Latest Elect. • Helpful Crew

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—ALSO—

5 PM BLUES • WEAKS • STRIPERS Fri., Sat. & Sun., Fare $11

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–3 Generations of Fishing Experience!–

SHEEPSHEAD BAY • PIER 7

PILOT II

It's Porgy Time!!!

★ 6AM DAILY ★

72' Triple Diesel

NITE BLUES 7PM Fri. & Sat.

CAPTAIN TOM • (212) 336-5479

Fast, New, Deluxe 100' all Alum. Supercruiser!

HELEN H

PIER 9 • **BLUES** • PIER 9

★ 6AM EVERY DAY ★

★ 7 PM EVERY NIGHT ★

Rest. • Lounge • Sundeck • Bait • Tackle • Helpful Mates

—The Latest in Fish-Finding Electronics—

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NORTH ☆ STAR

FLOUNDER • BLACKS • PORGIES

—DAILY 7:30 AM—

From City Island

65' Open Boat • Complete Electronics

★ RESTAURANT ★

(Located at 1st traffic light near Jack's Bait)

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SHEEPSHEAD BAY • PIER 1

ZEPHYR

PORGY TIME!!!

7 AM Daily • 75' Diesel Yacht

Capt. Butch (212) 375-2892 after 6 PM

BLUES • WEAKS • STRIPERS

NITE BLUES • 7 PM, FRI. & SAT.

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BIG, NEW, FAST, COMFORTABLE!

6:30 AM DAILY • FREE PARKING

Parkway Fishing Station, Knapp St. Exit Belt Pkwy.

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6 PASS LIMIT

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"BABE"

Capt. Stan Kreisler (212) 444-5217 — *After 7 PM* — Capt. Ken Kreisler (212) 634-2488

CITY ISLAND ★ DAILY 8 AM

—65 FOOT OPEN BOAT—

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Porgies • Blacks • Flounder

Nite Charters Avail.

All Electronics • 2 Cabins • Restaurant

– Bait & Tackle On Board –

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7 AM EVERY DAY • PIER 8

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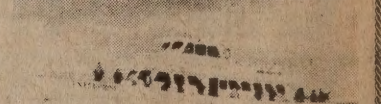
Capt. Jerry (212) 259-4073

★ NITE BLUES! ★

7 PM DAILY *(Exc. Sun.)*

ENTERPRISE



FLUKE PIER –2– BLUES

★ 8AM DAILY ★ 7PM DAILY

7:30 AM Sat., Sun., Hol.

80' LONG • 23' BEAM • TRIPLE DIESEL 1000hp

Galley • Tackle • Bait • Ladies Accomm.

Capt. Fred (212) 646-8083 • Capt. Jim 769-3598

The Most Experienced Fishing Boat on City Island

APACHE

FLOUNDERS & BLACKFISH

Moonlight Charters Avail.!

BAIT • TACKLE • RESTAURANT

★ *LADIES ACCOMMODATIONS* ★

DAILY 8:30 AM ● (212) 995-0843

First Traffic Light at Jack's Bait & Tackle

e took him only 50 mins. to hook and nd a 776 lb. bluefin tuna, taken oard Ed Schroeder's Jo-Lyn.

BALDWIN

Andy at **Arthur St. Fishing Station** ports that 14 fluke were taken by ike Sullivan and 3 buddies fishing rth of the golf ball in Reynold's nannel. Adam Kaplan and Mark osenblum got a mixed bag of rgies, blowfish and small blues, ifting around in Reynold's Channel. r. Horing and daughter Audrey had tuna in the 30 lb. class along with lphin and albies at the NB on athers. Jerry Kircher took 9 weaks nd 70 blues jigging SW of the inlet in) ft. of water. Frank Lalima had early 100 blues fishing Cholera with gs on the ebb. He was jigging S&J anana Splits.

Ted and Don Jackrel with some of their catch, including two duskie sharks up to 125 lbs., and some small skippies taken aboard the charterboat 'Rogue.'

WEST END SOUTH SHORE

★ BEST BET ★ BLUES

FREEPORT

Charter boat **Apus** reports sharking was slow this past week with just a couple of small duskies off the HA, but Capt. Mike expects it to pick up in a week or so when the water temp. drops a bit. Bluefishing however was fantastic. Each trip out to Cholera resulted in 44-100 blues per trip. Monday's trip headed by Mr. Durante chumming at Cholera resulted in 77 blues from 3-8 lbs., fishing bunker and smelt.

The Capt. Al reports that they have had fantastic bluefishing both days and nights. Charlie Payne of Freeport had 37 blues Friday and was back again on Sun. for 22 more blues. Art Douglas and Donald Jones of Levittown took 45 blues between them on Sun. On Mon., Fred Horby of Port Washington had a 9 lb. bonito and 22 blues.

Starstream II has been having excellent day and night bluefishing trips with the night trips being more consistent. The best time to go would be the weekday night trips as they will be least crowded.

Anthony's Fishing Station reports they had a busy weekend and the fluking was good in the local creeks. Porgies and blackfish were taken at the bridges on worms and clam. Boats averaged 3-4 fluke per skiff. The flounders will be starting soon, says Anthony, so watch the reports.

Freeport Boatmen's Association happily reports a lot of good fishing took place this past week with bluefish all over the ocean and the Association's boats sacking up on choppers.

Ken Roche with bluefish up to 12 lbs. taken outside Jones Inlet aboard the "Starstream II." Photo courtesy of Bait & Tackle Unlimited.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

★ NEW AMBERJACK V ★

★ LARGEST PARTY BOAT IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ★
130 Ft. Steel & Aluminum Supercruiser • Extra-Big 27 Ft. Beam
BLUEFISH! 7 A.M. DAILY ★ 6 A.M. Sat., Sun. & Hol. ★ 7 PM Every Nite
3 V-12 Turbo Charged Diesels—1800 H.P. • Reclining Seats • Restaurant • Tackle
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Ladies Accom. • Showers for Offshore Safaris • PIER 3, SHEEPSHEAD BAY
CAPT. JIM (212) 336-2050 *"Capt. & Crew of the New Amberjack V welcome you aboard!"*

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DAYS or NITES
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Cod, Flounder, Macks, Weaks, Bass, Blues, Tuna, Fluke, Shark
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6 AM DAILY **PORGY TIME** 6 AM DAILY

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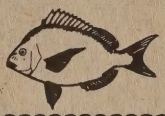

★BRAND X★

—JUMBO PORGIES—

★DAILY 8AM★

PRIME TIME GIANT BLUEFISH
—8AM DAILY (Except Sunday)
(516) 477-0008 • Capt. George Porter

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4 PM Charters Available!

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By the Port Jeff Yacht Club
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SEPT. 16 & 17 (Sat. & Sun.) 5AM—10AM BLUE RUN ONLY

BLUES 5AM-10AM (Sat., Sun., Tues.—$10
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BLUES Sat. & Thur. Eve., 4—9PM, $10
20% Disc. for Wives & Girlfriends

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OPEN BOAT • 8AM & 5PM DAILY
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luke charters and the open boat Capt. Hall in articular had a very good on Sat. The ssociation boats that trolled offshore had a lot f skipjack with tuna, albacore and bonito mixed i. The **Night Owl II** had catches of big cod on ieir recent wreck trip for Elmont's Double T ishing Club.

The Acme II reports a bonanza night blue trip t 17 Fathoms for Peter Loehle and group with apt. Ronnie Burdewick at the wheel. Joseph arszva of Richmond Hill and friends loaded p on 3-5 lb. blues at Cholera on the one real ad weather this past week. In spite of the eather, it was another bluefish slaughter. On nother trip, the Syosset Fire Dept. Co. #4 also agged up on blues at Cholera. All fish were 3-5 s. on bait. Steve Samuels was high hook with 4 blues and also took the pool.

The Aloma II by the time you read this report, switching to sea bass and porgies sailing at 7 M. Due to a problem in our schedule for the eek we were unable to change the ad for this eek, which reflects fluke.

The Capt. Lou II reports that Garrett's Lead id Baldwin Bay, along with some shots at the let, have produced fluke earlier in the week. s the fates have it, catches were slower on the eekend, but as Capt. Mike puts it, the eekdays were pretty good. Geo. Wells had a ½ lbr. fishing the Inlet on Thurs.

The Bluefin Fleet reports Mon. through Fri. as very productive fishing local areas south of uoy 4-Debs, between Debs and Jones for ues. Also the area SW of Jones Inlet was good r bluefish from 3-14 lbs. on jigs, bait and chum id Ava Bananas. Hi hook was in the teens uring the week, said Capt. Sy Karlin. Sat. ght's bluefish trip, which was also a slaughter Ambrose Ridge was sailed by Capt. Warren lyne.

Readers should note that the Village of reeport has changed the name of So. Grove St. is now called Guy Lombardo Ave. Any readers oking for directions or locations of a boat that is So. Grove St. mentioned in the ad, should ake mental note that this street now bears the w name, as do all the street signs.

Hook, Line and Sinker Bait and Tackle reports iappers in all the canals up to 2 lbs. and be sure to return the small baby weakfish that are mixed in with them. A few fluke have been taken at the inlet and in front of the CG station. Large weaks at night at the bridges on sand worms. Blues from the inlet to Cholera. Watch the birds and the chart. Tuna being taken on feathers and Cedar jigs at the 160 ft. mark.

Fourteen bluefin tuna, 6 skipjack and 2 blues for Harv Brayshaw, George Brouch, Jim Clavin, Rich Ley and Artie, taken just north of the HA buoy aboard the charter boat "Jackpot" out of Freeport.

POINT LOOKOUT

Scotty's Marina reports small bluefish from 1½ to 3 lbs. are being trolled from buoy 2 to the Lido Motel. Skipjack, bonito and a few tuna and dolphin are being taken in 40 to 120 feet of water offshore. Blackfishing is improving at the Rota and T wrecks. Seabass are being taken in 40 ft. of water off of the Stone wreck. Fluke are being taken in the flats at Pt. Lookout, in Middle Bay and in the inlet. These fish running up to 3 lbs. are taking killies, sandeels, spearing, squid, and fluke bellies. Small bluefish and snappers can be taken in the bay. Small porgies are all over the area and blueclaw crabs are starting to show.

ISLAND PARK

The Commodore tells us that they are shifting from a daily sailing schedule and are now sailing Sat. and Sun. only at 7AM. Please note their ad still reflects daily sailing, as we were unable to make the change for this issue.

Capt. Bill of the **Ginnie Mae** reports that he had good fishing Sat. at Ambrose and around the Fishermans buoy, on clam and chum, fish 3-5 lbs. Bill says that the charter boat Roma-Fran II was in on this same hot fishing.

Beckmann's Tackle reports over the weekend bluefish were jigged and baited at the Cholera Banks. Fluking is improving at Debb's and Jones Inlet and at Duck Point. Sandeels/squid and spearing/squid combos are the best bet. A few blackfish are being picked up at the local bridges, snappers are plentiful in the bays, and blueclaw crabbing is getting underway. Bass are being clam chummed, blues are taking bunker and weakfish are hitting sandworms at the Atlantic Beach and Meadowbrook bridges. Magnolia Pier is producing 16 lb. bluefish at night on bunker bait.

LONG BEACH

Long Beach Sports Marina reports that Jessie and Sammy Salem, Morris Abraham, and Elliott Hanan of Brooklyn fished the Cholera banks on Monday and trolled 21 bluefish. Fluking is good off the Cedarhurst Yacht Club with fish to 3 lbs. taking sandeels and squid. Snappers are plentiful in the area. A reliable source reported that fluke averaging 7 lbs. are being picked up off Ambrose.

Pat & Billy Chapman with 14 fluke taken fishing the Sloop Channel with killie and squid combos. Subscriber Club Photo.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Capt. Ronnie Lepper of the **Kim** tells us sharks are still good as he is getting 3-5 sharks per shark trip and that he had another mako during the week. Until Monday, there was great tuna trolling along with bonito and albies mixed in way off the beach. Some tuna clippers were spotted on Mon. about 40 miles off. Lots of bluefish in 70-90 ft. of water along with some weakfish. Ronnie is combining tuna trolling as part of the agenda on his shark trips so that his charters can get some of each of this exciting type of fishing. Ronnie says he is getting good results.

Hennings Fishing Station reports good fluke fishing with spearing and sandeels in the inlet and the channel. Snappers are plentiful in the area. Bluefish are in and out of the bay and inlet and are being taken while fluking. Nice size blues are being taken on jigs, bucktails, Hopkins, and Rebels off of the Silver Point jetty.

★ Shinnecock Canal ★

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8 A.M. EVERY DAY
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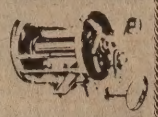

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SHEEPSHEAD BAY

The big, new **Amberjack V** reports they are slaughtering blues nightly at 17 Fathom, fish from 3-15 lbs. The big trips are very good at Klondike on bait and jigs, says Capt. Vinnie.

Capt. Butch on the **Zephyr** tells us that he had a solid 45 min. shot at big porgies in the 1½ lb. range at the Tin Can, 10-20 of these sluggers per man. When the tide changed and action fell off, they then sailed to the Rockaways for another one-half to full five gallon pail of slightly smaller porgies plus some sea bass. Butch says this is a good sign because they went back again on Mon. and had big porgies again and this could very well develop into a super porgy season.

The Flamingo III reports exceptionally good fishing all week and weekend long on blues, both day and night trips. Consistent is the best word for it, says Capt. Walter and this has been the best week of the year. Some bonito, albacore and skipjack are starting to be caught too in with the blues. The fall fishing has started with crowds lighter and the best fishing of the year at hand with quantities and variety. He expects mixed bags of blues, weaks, bass, bonito, albacore and tuna from here on in.

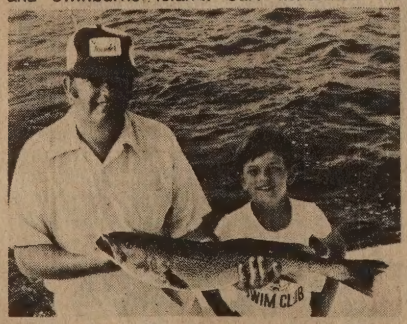
Capt. Fred on the **Enterprise** says that the day trips for fluke are hot one day and only lukewarm the next, but the night bluefish trips to 17 Fathoms are unbelievably fantastic with fish flying all the time, mainly on bait and chum.

The Helen H reports good day bluefishing and nighttime slaughter, fish mixed sizes.

Capt. Joe on the **Atomic II** reports day fluking runs hot and cold. His night bluefish trips are frantic and they are bagging up each trip.

STATEN ISLAND

Santos Sport Shop reports that boat fishermen are taking blues from Princess Bay to Tottenville. These fish are in 2 size schools one in the 3-5 lb. range and another in the 10-16 lb. range. These fish are being taken steadily trolling red, green, and white lancers. Buoy 4 at Annadale is producing 4 to 6 lb. weakfish on worms. Three to four lb. striped bass are being taken on drifted worms at the VZ 21 can, Hoffman Island, and Swinburne Island. Surf fishermen are producing a slow pick of bluefish in the 10 to 12 lb. range at South Beach and Burger AVe. Sand porgies, snapper blues, and fluke just over keeper size can be found from the VZ Bridge to Princess Bay.



Stephen Rhodes, Jr. and his father with one of 23 weakfish taken on a red surgical tube out of Staten Island. Subscriber club photo.

PECONICS & GARDINERS
★ BEST BET ★
PORGIES

GREENPORT

Capt. Geo. Porter on the **Brand X** reports the porgy fishing is excellent at Fisher's Island and George says the big porgies seem to be just waiting for us to drop down our baits. Sat., Sun., and Mon. saw super catches from small to large humpbacks. Double and triple-headers were not uncommon, all on clam. Not reflected in the Brand X ad this week is the fact that starting Sept. 11 they are switching over to bluefish 8AM daily. Sept. 10 will be their last porgy trip.

AP White Bait Shop reports that porgy action remains good at Fishers Island. Bluefishing has been hot and cold in the Race, in Pigeon Rip and on the northside of Plum Island. Fish up to 10½ lbs. have been taken from these areas. Blackfishing is good along the northshore, Plum Island, and Gull Island. These fish running from 2 to 8 lbs. are taking fiddlers and green crabs. Flounder to 2 lbs. are taking worms and clams off of Orient. Porgies and blackfish are being taken from the surf along the Sound in Greenport.

SOUTHOLD

Port of Egypt reported lots of small porgies between buoys 17 and 18 over the weekend. One party came in with 16 weaks from 1½ to 3 lbs. between buoys 16 and 17. That was it for the bay. In the Sound there's blackfish at the Orient Light and porgies in Petty's Bight. Fluke are still holding at just fair. Snappers and more snappers off most shore lines.

NEW SUFFOLK

Capt. Marty's Fishing Station reports that weakfish from 1½ to 3 lbs. are hitting sandworms at black buoy 1. There are a few porgies mixed in with these fish. Porgies averaging ¾ of a lb. are taking worms and clams south of buoy 23. Kingfish from 12 to 18 inches have been taken in the above areas. Blowfish are taking worms and clams on the east side of Robins Island.

AQUEBOGUE

Warren's Tackle Center reported blues in the sound anywhere from buoy 5 to Hortons Point. Trolling umbrellas did the trick with no one

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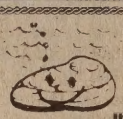

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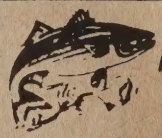

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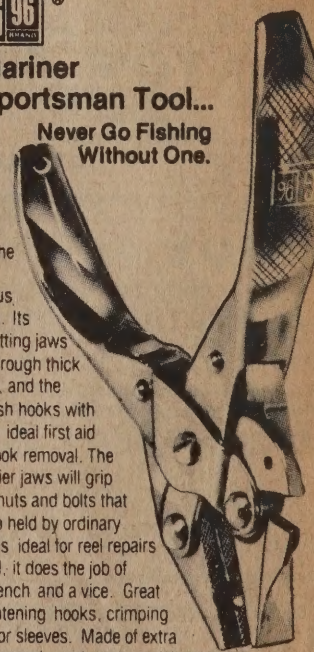

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Carl Schweinsburg and grandson Ron Stinson with fluke of 6 lbs. 14 oz. and 3½ lbs., taken drifting squid at Cedar Point during the incoming tide. Subscriber club photo.

PECONICS

Speck's Bait and Tackle reports porgy action ncreasing in Noyac and the Sag Harbor area round buoys 12, 14, and 15. Snappers bundant in the bays and big blues off the beach om about 70 ft. on out. Best fluking has been t Promised Land on squid and sand eels with ne skiff returning with 30 keepers. Weaks in ne 5 lb. class have shown improvement on sand orms, on the west side of North Haven and est of Cow Neck.

FG

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

★ BEST BET ★ BLUEFISH

ROCKY POINT

Rocky Point Fishing Stop reports that bluefish in the 2 to 5 lb. range are being taken consistently from the beaches from Miller Place to Shoreham. Snappers are plentiful in this area. Fluke fishing has been fair at the second bar at Sound Beach and at buoy 5 on sandeels, squid, and tinker mackerel. Porgy fishing remains good along local beaches.

MT. SINAI HBR.

Ralph's Fishing Station reports good porgy fishing at Miller Place, Rocky Point, and straight off of Mt. Sinai Harbor. Bluefish averaging 4 lbs. are being taken on the troll at buoys 11 and 9. An occasional fish up to 11 lbs. have been taken and bonito are mixed in. Small blackfish averaging 3 lbs. are starting to show in the area and can be taken while porging with clams and worms. Fluke from keepers to 4 lbs. are taking squid, sandeels, killies, and shiners drifting off the beaches.

PORT JEFFERSON

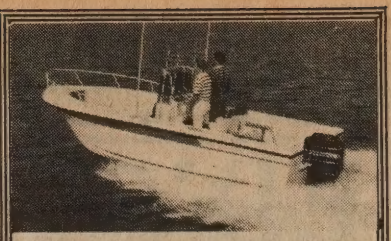
Caraftis Fishing Station reported blues taken over the weekend at buoy 11. Porgies still out off Old Field Point. Don't quit just because the summer crowds are gone. Still a few fluke to be had at Mr. Misery but hurry, their numbers are dwindling. Plenty and plenty of snappers.

NORTHPORT

Bowman's Sporting Goods reports bluefish are being jigged and trolled in the 4 to 5 lb. range off of the obstruction buoy. Smaller fish averaging 2 lbs. can be found at Lloyd Point and at the hot water outflow at Lilco. Bluefish up to 17 lbs. are hitting bunker after 7:30 off of Diamond Point. Striped bass are being taken from the surf and trolling close to shore off of Ashroken Beach. These fish are running 10 to 12 lbs. and are hitting Tri-fin eel worms, bucktails, Creek Chubs and poppers. There are a few weakfish mixed in with the bass. Bass averaging 10 lbs. can also be taken clam chumming at the rips off Eatons Neck. Fluke fishing is fair to good at the Eatons Neck Coast Guard Station. Most fish running to 5 lbs. with an occasional doormat taken on squid and sandeels. Snappers are getting larger and can be found in the bay and sound. Sand porgies are all around Northport harbor and bay. Small weakfish are being taken while snapper fishing and these fish should be returned if under 12 inches in length.

HUNTINGTON

Capt. Don of th **Ever Ready** called to say the bluefishing contintues to be great with the Sat. morning run providing complete pandemonium with hundreds of blues being caught. Albert Mezzo won the pool. Tony Wernola and wife



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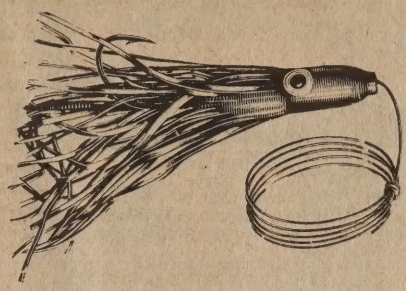

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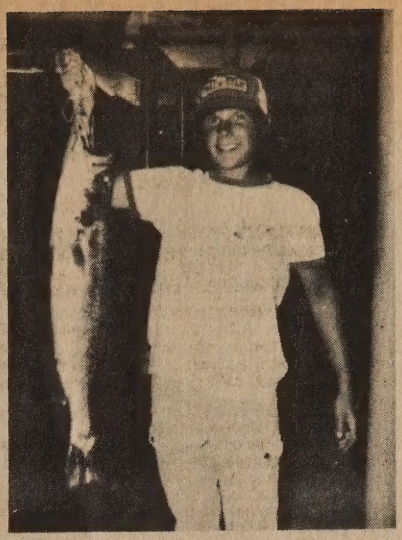

Todd Eppley, age 15, with a 10½ lb. weakfish, taken on a Mr. Twister out of Hempstead Harbor. Subscriber club photo.

went home with over 25 blues and lost many more. The Ava 27 diamond jig is doing fantastic.

Four Winds Tackle reports bluefish are being jigged and trolled from 2 to 6 lbs. off of buoy 15. Weakfish up to 10 lbs. are under the bluefish. Bigger bluefish are being taken at 11b on bunker chunks with drails. Two to six lb. blues can be picked up here also. Daybreak in Cold Spring Harbor, Lloyd Harbor, and Huntington Harbor is producing 10 to 16 lb. bluefish on bunker bait. Porgies are being taken in good numbers on worms and clams at Marshall Field and Ashroken. Buoys 15 and 13 are producing 3 to 6 lb. fluke on sandeels, spearing, snappers, and mackerel strips. There are plenty of snappers in all bays and harbors.

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Fish Talk: mr. jaws

(Continued from page 7.)

hammerhead swimming free is not likely to attack a boat or even a swimmer in most circumstances. A pack of fired-up sharks are capable of anything, yes; but under normal circumstances no. A tiger will not usually attack a man either. But when a tiger gets old, is injured, or hasn't eaten in a long time, the taboos against man dissolve and man becomes fair game. Once again, wouldn't you do the same? We don't usually go around our streets shooting dogs and we don't eat them; however, starving men have eaten their dogs, rats, cats, and each other. Survival.

CHARACTERISTICS. The white shark is a torpedo shaped shark. The base of the tail is narrow and the tail itself is broad. The center of the animal is thick and the head is tapered to minimize water resistance. The second dorsal fin is greatly reduced, which helps in identification and distinguishing it from other related sharks. The pectoral fins are also large and the tips are black. They have many broad triangular teeth which are serrated on both sides. The serrations are razor sharp and can cut through flesh as easily as a knife. The color may vary a bit. They may be brown, slate blue, dark grey—even almost black. The ventral surface is a dirty white. Tinges of pink or red may adorn the belly and mouth regions as well. Normally, white sharks prefer the deep open ocean; however, it is not uncommon for them to come inshore when their prey moves into shallow water.

FEARED IN AUSTRALIA. In Australia, the people have no such doubts that white sharks are dangerous and that they will not avoid the shallows. Many white sharks have been trapped by the nets that Australians use to surround their beaches. They regard the white shark as an unpredictable man-eater and they consider only the killer whale to be as ferocious. Since killer whales are not likely to be a problem on the Great Barrier Reef, Australians call Mr. Jaws, "Mr. Death."

Next week Part II.."Blue Water, White Death."

SEA SERVINGS

FISH TEMPURA

The firm white meat fish of winter, the flounder, ling and whiting are delicious when prepared in this traditional Japanese style.

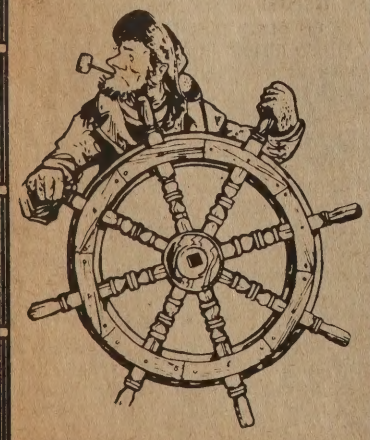
TEMPURA BATTER

1 cup wholewheat flour
¼ tsp salt
1 tsp cornstarch
1 ¼ cups cold water

Cut the fillets of fish into bite size pieces. Mix the batter adding the dry ingredients slowly to make a smooth mixture.

In a heavy pan heat about 1 to 2 inches of sesame oil until a drop of water will sizzle (about 370°). Dip the fish pieces into the batter and then fry until golden brown and crisp.

Tempura should be served a few pieces at a time, as soon as cooked, on a hot bed of rice. Thinly sliced snow peas, asparagus tips, watercress, carrots and cucumbers should be served with the fish, and also dipped in the tempura batter and fried in the sesame oil.

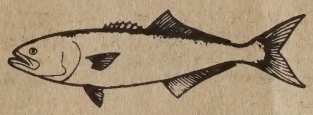


NORTH SHORE WEST END

★ BEST BET ★ PORGIES

CITY ISLAND

Jack's Tackle Shop reported plenty of porgies over the weekend. Most boats came in with 50 to 60 fish. Blues were on the scarce side. Perhaps that's why the porgies were around in good numbers. School bass still at Hart's Island. Andy Starace had 17 fish last Tuesday from 3½ to 8 lbs. trolling very slowly with a small spinner and worm. Plenty of snapper blues which are getting bigger. The only boat that went for blacks was back at the dock by 12:30 with 34 from 2-3 lbs. That's a sign blackfishing is picking up again.



Rod Paradise of Ballwin, Mo., took this 13½ lb. bluefish to top cousin Joe's 4 lber. These fish were taken at Prospect Pt. on bunker aboard their grandfather's boat. Subscriber club photo.

821-0140

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